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2016 PROGRAM YEAR LAUNCHED WITH TC WINSTON TRIBUTE



Members of LF2016 at the 2016 Program Launch this year

Tropical Cyclone Winston, the worst storm recorded in the southern hemisphere, ravaged portions of our Fiji Islands and affected so many people and communities, with families losing loved ones and most, losing their very means of livelihoods.

What was to have been a triple celebration of our 2016 Program Launch, the Induction of 2014 Fellows and the Commemoration of Leadership Fiji's 15th Year Anniversary, had to be reconditioned in light of the state of Emergency that had befallen our nation towards the end of February and weeks into March.

In the spirit of resilience promoted by our Government in the aftermath of TC Winston, we forged ahead with the launch of our 2016 Program albeit low key, and the Induction of 2014 Fellows. Guests paused during the event and paid tribute to lives lost and acknowledged the courage of individuals whose efforts and leadership stood out remarkably as highlighted by various media days after the Cyclone.

Leadership Fiji Pioneering Alumni, Ms Eseta Nadakuitavuki (LF2002) who was Chief Guest at the occasion urged participants to carry through with resilience and perseverance. The Manager Women's Markets at Westpac Banking Corporation encouraged participants and Fellows about the need to be aware of surroundings – climate included. She urged that leaders needed to "believe in yourselves and please focus on improving opportunities for women."

The aim of Leadership Fiji is to expose participants to other prominent leaders from across our society, in a structured manner, providing them with the opportunity to deepen their understanding of their country, its history, economic and social structure.



Ms Eseta Nadakuitavuki

Leadership Fiji Chairman, William Parkinson said many men and women stepped forward and showed leadership after Cyclone Winston and this year's participants could considerably learn from it. Mr Parkinson remarked, "Think about how you can use leadership to contribute to nation building."

The 2016 participants of Leadership Fiji were urged to use the solidarity shown by fellow Fijians after Tropical Cyclone Winston as a foundation for things they will learn in the program.

There are 24 full participants of the 2016 Program which is now, in its midterm. Leadership Fiji's 15th Anniversary Celebration has been deferred to November, 2015 to coincide with the 2016 Participants Graduation.

ENDS

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

William Parkinson



Wow!

What an exciting start to the year for the Leadership Fiji Alumni. Members are clearly energised following the highly successful retreat at the Pearl Resort hosted for us by the East West Centre with the kind sponsorship of the Embassy of the United States.

It is always a revelation to me that when I drag (often with much grumbling) Alumni to events they almost without exception.... One... don't want to leaveTwo.... are clamouring to go to the next event.

There is a very real reason for this and it is why you were so energised by Leadership Fiji in the first place. Winners inspire winners or to put it another way hanging out with driven successful LEADERS will beat any form of energy buzz in the market.

BUT sadly all too often shortly after enjoying the, "buzz", life kicks in and it all becomes too hard again! I know we all get lazy and the temptation to just relax is very powerful.

To counter this "malua fever" the simplest idea emerged out of the brainstorming. **PLUS 1**.....If I can summarise it means each LF Alumni member commits to motivating themselves AND another Alumni to come along to events. This shares the dragging, kicking screaming etc!!!!

The bonus is the more leaders in the room, the bigger the buzz! So the return on all that effort will be worth it!

Relax we don't expect you to make it to all the Alumni events but set yourself a goal of at least two in 2016.

The Alumni executives has some exciting plans for our 15th year so make the effort to take you along PLUS ONE!

These exciting developments within the Alumni are only one part of Leadership Fiji's strategic initiatives that have been implemented this year, following a period of reflection and strategic planning at the end of 2015 by the Board. Other initiatives to work with the Alumni, a key part of Leadership Fiji, are, the development of an Alumni skills bank and mentoring program, and a 'stock-take' of Alumni community projects and funds, in a bid to consolidate Alumni activities and move forward in a more organized and cohesive way.

Other initiatives for Leadership Fiji are to increase promotions, marketing and media development about the program, in particular as we build up to the 15th

Anniversary on November 4th, and to target key sectors to increase participation and sponsorship support of the program. Our long term key strategic objective is to establish a Leadership Institute for Fiji and the Pacific.

ENDS

INDUCTION OF 2014 GRADUATES AS FELLOWS OF LEADERSHIP FIJI

Early this year, LF2014 were inducted as Fellows of Leadership Fiji after having immersed themselves in various community projects since graduation and delivered assistance across different communities in the past 2 years.

To name a few of the Projects delivered, LF2014 made a monetary contribution to assist Hilton Special School in Suva by covering running costs for the children for 2 weeks. They also facilitated a financial literacy awareness program for the people of Serua Island. Over 140 boxes or about 7000 library books have been donated to 8 recipient which were Serua Island, Burebasaga District School, Lami Primary and High School, Primary School, Ratu Ravuama Primary School, District School, Vatumali and the Women's Prison. Their final project for 2014 was the repainting of the Tamavua Village Hall.

In 2015, they provided assistance through a variety of activities for Nabitu District School in partnership with Rotary Suva, Tamavua Village Kindergarten, a few West Based Kindergartens: Vitogo Village Kindergarten & Lovu HART Home. Works were also carried out in the Nadi Dental Clinic in partnership with Rotaract Nadi, Valelevu Health Centre in partnership with Mark One Apparel and St Giles Hospital via the procurement of items listed by the hospital as priority needs.

Congratulations LF2014 on your induction as Fellows.

ENDS



Members of LF2014 at the 2016 Program Launch

2016 OPENING RETREAT

The 2016 Opening retreat was in every sense of the words, an 'eye-opener' for the new participants of LF2016. On the first day, participants were forced to get out of their comfort zones and at the same time allow their new friends into their personal spaces, which proved to be uncomfortable for many, but was soon realised as indicative of the rest of their Leadership journey for 2016. The day involved a lot of self-reflection, and understanding of their own personal strengths, weaknesses, prejudices, and indeed potential, for growth and self-development. The second day of the retreat, focused more on how they perceived their communities, and further our nation, as a whole, and then how they saw their purpose as individuals and as a group, in affecting positive change as Leaders, in Fiji. The event culminated in a Visioning process, which proved to be a mammoth and emotional task, to get all 24 participants values, reflections and aspirations into one statement. All in all, the retreat was a great success in getting the participants to bond as a team, and to reflect on the purpose of their Leadership journey and commitment to community.



An Overview of Fiji's History

Experts from the Fiji National Museum, Morgan and Sepeti took us back into the 1700s and preceding that, in the times of the Lapita people that settled in the Pacific. We learned of the challenges that still exist in determining various aspects of our historical origins and the Fijian identity. We discovered a major challenge – the inability to present their researchers physically, on time, on sites that required in depth study.

Prof. Sudesh Mishra of the University of the South Pacific (USP) took us back to the 1800s, delving right into the creation of Race tables, classes of people and categories built on logic of physical appears i.e. hair, eye, skin color through the eyes of colonialists. He explained with researched visual aid, how foreigners in positions of leadership in the 1800s, drew the lines for separating races. It was interesting to note that from all information presented, it seemed that colonialism, while motivated to civilize, happened to introduce systems that were anything contradictory.

Former Fijian Prime Minister, now small business owner, Mr Sitiveni Rabuka reminded us of Post-Independence and how Fiji coped. Not to shy off a challenge, LF2016 asked Mr Rabuka about his role in the coup d'état of

1987, his motivations then, his reflections and his plans for the future. We received a colorfully interesting account of those times and their issues.

Dr Sandra Tarte of the School of Political Governance of USP shone some light into the years of 2000-2006, corruption, racial politics, power struggles, diversification of foreign partnerships and a 'clean-up' campaign.

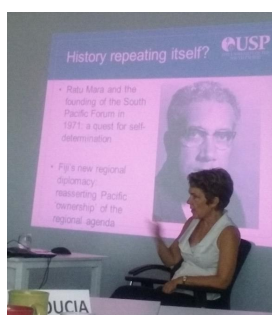
Ratu Joni Madraiwiwi, former High Court Judge and former Vice President of Fiji was gracious with his time on our panel and equally liberal with his views on Fiji moving beyond our political struggles. He advised LF2016 to be better leaders.

Jon Fraeklin wrapped up this session with insight into the history of Elections.

ENDS

SESSION REPORTS

The following are activity reports, in summary, of the various sessions, site visitations and group retreats that have taken place this year. Traditionally, working groups are assigned to these reports, and the 4 Teams of Tui Tui, Tabua, Tagimoucia and Tilapia shared in the responsibilities of tracking and evaluating these activities.



Human Rights & Media



Katrina Ma'u Fatiaki of SPC's Regional Rights Resource Team of SPC opened this session with a 101 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and its ratifications the world over, plus the challenges of upholding its principles in various countries of the Pacific, including Fiji. There was a discussion around the rise of civil society movements and various forms of human rights movements and leadership issues around the human rights abuses.

Director of Fiji's Human Rights Commission and Chairman of the Media Industry Development Authority (MIDA), Ashwin Raj talked generally about the work of the newly formed Commission. He also explained the role of MIDA and the processes through which MIDA addresses media complaints lodged with them.

Savaira Tinai of the Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation (FDPF) gave us an insight into the works of the FDPF in lobbying for disability friendly national policies and legislation that take into account the limitations of people living with disabilities. She reminded LF2016 about the important roles that leaders play in the application of non-discriminatory and inclusive practices in work places and other environments.



Kris Prasad, Human Rights Officer for the Fiji Women's Rights Movement introduced the Drodrolagi Movement to us. An NGO and community organization working to create and celebrate a culture of equality, respect, dignity and pride for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) community in Fiji. He spoke about challenges of being considered a minority and the realities of constant public persecution due to personal choices – which was an infringement of human rights.

Anishni Chand of the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre (FWCC) shared the works of FWCC spanning 24 years in the struggle for gender equality, rights of women, the media, and people with disabilities. As legal counsel for the FWCC her work heavily involves public advocacy and community education on gender violence and prevention in communities. *ENDS*

Law & Order



Justice Anjala Wati presented a Judiciary Overview and outlined responsibilities of the judiciary. She explained challenges around media reporting, financial resources, specialized training of court and judicial staff. Renown Suva lawyer, Richard Naidu spoke about the Rule of Law, Democracy and Society. Mr Naidu was of the strong opinion of the importance of a Government accountable to the Rule of Law, constantly reminding LF2016 that not one citizen should be above the law. He greatly encouraged consultation and independence. Christopher Pryde delivered information on the 2013 Constitution, duties of a state lawyer, the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP), codes of conduct, crimes and challenges within a Court system.

This session was concluded with a site visit to the Criminal Court, in which we witnessed the processes, rules and regulations while attending a case. Our takeaway from the session was the importance for people of a country to know our laws and the importance of the DPP and judiciary system.

Government Machinery



The day kick started with a personal "My Job" presentation for LF2016 members about current employments. Isoa Vakari from Labasa spoke about the daily challenges of a fire fighter. James Pridgeon, General Manager of the Uprising Resort spoke about his job and contribution towards the tourism industry. Roneel Narayan, Director of Programs for Sargam Radio Station discussed his experiences of being a radio announcer and at the same time managing daily programs.

Then, Mr Jioji Kotobalavu spoke about 'How Government works in a Parliamentary System'. The objective was to help us understand the functions and mechanics of Cabinet and Parliament and the challenges associated. Mr Kotobalavu also highlighted and shared case facts on improper misuse of office and wrongful dismissal of employees by the employers.

This followed a site visit to Parliament, with the objective of further

understanding functions and mechanics of a parliamentary system. Manager Civic Education Unit, Mr. Vatimosi Delailovu was our tour guide and proved to be immensely knowledgeable of parliament functions and its mechanisms.

Dr. Biman Prasad then gave us an invaluable overview of the role and workings of the Opposition. The objective of the session was to understand the role of the Opposition in Fiji's parliament and we wrapped up the session with a thoroughly engaging Q&A exchange.

Supervisor of Elections, Mr. Mohammed Saneem then delivered a Powerpoint presentation on Elections, election processes, and minimum standards in elections. He assisted our learnings by providing an overview of the 2014 General Elections process, some of the successes, challenges, and lessons learnt. We were excited to hear of his future plans for the 2018 elections.

LF2016 was privileged to conduct site visits to some of Fiji's highly reputable agricultural organizations and operations around Viti Levu. Our Alternative Agriculture session, started with a personal visit and tour of three well established farms that have been in business for decades in the Eastern Division, supplying agricultural produce to various consumers. These were the Vunikoka Farm managed by Mr Tiko Eastgate, then Joe's Farm and then onto Grace Road. Each establishment had an appointed specialist that showed us around the sites and spoke at great length about the operational infrastructure and various leadership methods employed over the years to ensure the success of these establishments. It was interesting to note that despite the masses of fertile land available to locals, most Fijians do not necessarily have agriculture at the forefront of new business aspirations. The owners of the 3 farming

establishments that we visited all testified to the gratifying benefits of agriculture as an entrepreneurship and encouraged LF2016 to utilize land for sustainable livelihoods, and also promote the support of agricultural ventures for the economic development of Fiji.

Other sites visited were the Sigatoka Government Research Station, Fiji's largest commercial piggery farm - Vuda Piggery and the Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises & Development (FRIEND) in the Western Division.

LF2016 was curious to learn about how these 5 agricultural bodies empowered their employees and to improve their livelihoods and healthy discussions were carried out to which we achieved some insight into Leadership around poverty-stricken communities (farm hands and their families).



Celebrating Successes

In every issue of the Leadership Fiji (LF) Newsletter, we will celebrate significant achievements of the Leadership Fiji Program, the works of the LF Alumni and notable works of venerated LF Fellows and Graduates in Fiji and abroad.

Do you have great news to share with us? Please email tamara@leadershipfiji.org.fj

The 2016 Leadership Summit: Leadership Development through Alumni Community Building

15-16th April, 2016 at The Pearl Resort, Pacific Harbor, Suva

East West Centre (EWC) Leadership Programs Staff worked with Leadership Fiji's group of community and corporate leaders to establish a strategic vision and action plan for the Leadership Fiji alumni network. The workshop engaged between 50-60 LF Alumni in exploring our common values and identifying action steps based on a collective Leadership Fiji vision. The event also supported efforts to build the Leadership Fiji brand. EWC Staff along with the planning committee from the LF Alumni, designed an engaging, thought-provoking, and action-focused workshop that included future scenarios, storytelling, and adaptive leadership training.

Participants were privileged to have worked with staff of EWC - Scott MacLeod, Gretchen Alther, Nina Dutra and Lori Concepcion also hear from H.E The US Ambassador to Fiji, Ms Judith Cefkin.

The major outcome of the event was that the group agreed and finalized a group 'project' titled Plus One, which is based on re-igniting the Leadership Fiji values and passions from within the group as a collective, before making plans to continue impacting communities outside of the group. Plus One involves, each participant, bringing in one other LFA member back into the fold for future events. The idea was enthusiastically embraced and the actions associated with the plan, are already coming to fruition through the hard work of the LFA Executive Committee and it's newly formed sub-committees.

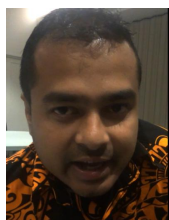
Testimonials about the 2016 Leadership Summit from the Alumni



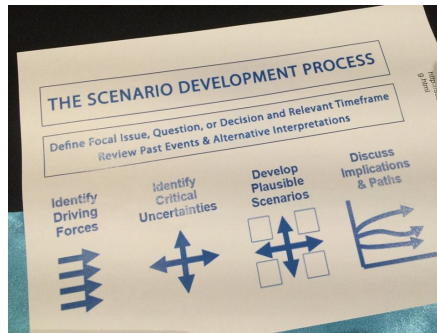
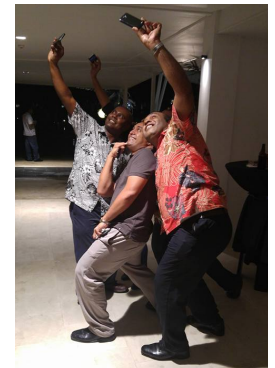
Julianne Verma, LF2013 - *I am inspired again and just seeing all the other alumni members made me remember the whole purpose of why I joined Leadership Fiji to begin with.*

My takeaway from the whole summit is basically to make a difference. My flame has been reignited for community service and my takeaway from this is to go forward and act, to do something to improve our communities, improve work places, improve our families – essentially improve our country.

Aisake Mausio, LF2009 - *I found that the theme of re-igniting the leader in you was very appropriate for myself and I decided to sign up and come and join the conference. One of the key things I learnt through the workshop is VALUES. What are my values? What do I need to do about them? Also as leaders, we need to listen more and communicate our messages clearly. There are many more lessons I've taken away from this workshop and I really want to go back in my community, share the learnings that I have with my team. I thank the Leadership Fiji team and those that have organized this event. It's been a brilliant experience and I encourage all of you to please contact the Secretariat and reach out to Leadership Fiji members and try to grow the network.*



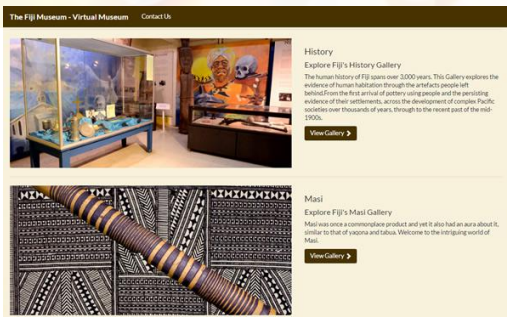
Arnol Narayan, LF2013 - *This type of conference is really good especially for the LFA members – to refresh leadership skills. Lessons learnt are some of the things we already know but have forgotten in these last 2 to 3 years like one of our goals - which is what we can do for our communities.*



Atu Siwatibau, LF2004 - *I was so excited by this Conference. This was the first thing that I have attended of this sort ever since my eldest son was born about 8 years ago. It was the quality of the Conference, the persistence of the Secretariat and the packaging of the marketing of it really made me think, that I needed to get back to Leadership Fiji and start doing 'more'.*

Ropate Pareti, LF2010 - *The most important thing I learnt from the conference is how, we as a group, we need others in the group. As leaders in a group, we need to listen to others as well because our journeys will not only involve us but others as well. I strongly believe my expectations were fully met.*

Celebrating Successes



A first for Fiji: The Launch of Fiji's Virtual Museum

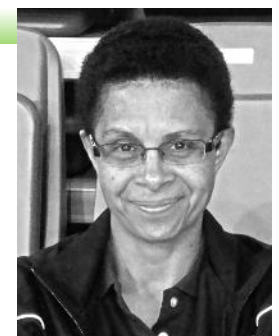
22nd April, 2016

Dave Lavaki (LF2009) is a musician, a writer and business owner of First Fighter, a Video and Audio production company which was commissioned to work, along with various bodies, on the creation of Fiji's first ever Virtual Museum. It was launched in April and can now be viewed through a virtual tour of Fiji's history spanning over 3,000 years, professionally documented in an online gallery.

The virtual museum can be experienced via the Fiji Museum Website or here: <http://vm.ictp.cm/1.2/index.php>

Regional Sports Appointment for Leadership Fiji Alumni, Cathy Wong

16th May, 2016 Cathy Wong (LF2008) has been appointed as the Oceania region's non-elected Director of Women's Rugby. In this role she is expected to increase the participation of women in the sport and enhance the welfare of women as sports administrators. To learn more about Cathy and other inspirational women purchase the latest issue of Niuwave Magazine in which her story is featured. Flip to the "Her Story" section which is proudly sponsored by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre and is aimed at celebrating the achievements of women throughout the region while highlighting important facts and figures surrounding their opportunities and development.



Leadership Fiji Develops Facebook Following



In a re-branding exercise, Leadership Fiji's Facebook Page was overhauled and relaunched in November 2015, and began to rebuild a following for LF news, leadership stories in general, and other information of national interest from rugby, to politics, health, climate and more. In the span of 5 months, LF's Facebook Page has generated 2,250 followers and counting. Do not hesitate to share the Page with your Facebook friends.

Do you have great news to share with us? Please email tamara@leadershipfiji.org.fj



Community Recovery Outreach Program (CROP) gets new office

CROP in Suva used to operate out of a small room at the Fiji Medical Association building on Amy Street, but has now moved into a more permanent venue at the YMCA Building off Waimanu Road.

The LF2006 Fellows have been working tirelessly with CROP over several years since their graduation to support them with equipment and resources. LF2006 has spent close to \$2,000 of the funds raised by their graduate group to establish and equip the new CROP facility at the YMCA.

The new CROP home has two staff (a full time nurse (Nurse Iliva) and admin/orderly (Salochna)) and a volunteer (Thelma) working with 5 outpatients that have been enrolled in the program since January 2016. The staff are so excited with the new move as the space allows them to implement a lot more activities, and far more inviting for new outpatients to join.

How can the LF Alumni help? The CROP team are seeking the wider LF Alumni's assistance to purchase lino carpet and curtains for three rooms (18m x 5m) and two smaller rooms. LF2006 welcomes donations of old furniture that can be used at CROP.

Please contact Duri Buadromo on duri@rbf.gov.fj if you would like to assist or donate any items.



Lunch and Learn with Mark Wager - Leadership Coach (Asia Pacific Region)

16th of February, 2016



There was a great turnout at this successful event held at the Reserve Bank, with 50 participants turning up for the opportunity to learn over lunch with Mr Wager.

Widely regarded as one of the world's top leadership experts, the published author, consultant and strategist spoke across four key areas - Leadership of successful teams, Optimisation of mental performance, Leadership psychology and High performing teams.

Book your place now for the next Lunch & Learn Session with the motivational Mayur Kalbag on Wednesday June 22nd at the Reserve Bank Conference Facility, by contacting tamara@leadershipfiji.org.fj



Progress with Leadership Fiji Alumni Administration and Organisational Structure

Since the success of the 2016 Leadership Summit on Leadership Development through Alumni Community Building, with the East-West Centre in April of this year, the subsequent Plus 1 initiative has resulted in a significant boost in LFA numbers in communication on Facebook, Viber and emails, which has led to more LFA attending meetings in preparation for an AGM to be held on June 18th (please see details below), as well as to forge a way ahead for LFA activities and commitments to community. One such development has been the formation of 8 Sub-Committees to assist in mapping out the plans that the LFA have for development and turning them into action. The Sub-Committees listed, are headed by the Team Leaders mentioned, but are open to any LFA who are interested in serving in these specific areas. For more information on the Sub-Committees, or to be directed to members of the LFA Executive Committee, please contact the Team Leaders below or tamara@leadershipfiji.org.fj

Sub-Committee

Team Leaders

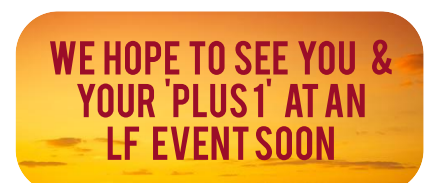
Contact

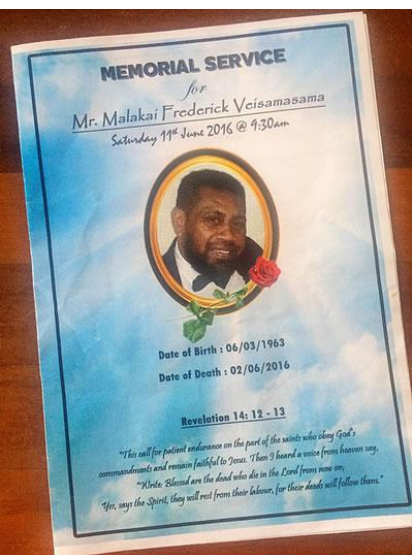
Legal, Audit, Risk & Compliance	Peter Rigamoto, Atu Siwatibau	Peter.Rigamoto@digicelgroup.com atu@sas.com.fj
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Marketing and Sponsorship	Julienne Verma, Kritika Kripal	Julienne@victoriawines.com.fj KritikaKaruna.Kripal@fj.nestle.com
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Financial Management	Nowen Low, Anabel Ali	nlow@bsplife.com.fj anabel@alizapacific.com.fj

A reminder to all LF Alumni - \$20 membership subscriptions for 2016 are due. Please contact tamara@leadershipfiji.org.fj to clear outstanding subs, and please deposit your subs into the following bank account:

BANK DETAILS:

*Westpac Banking Corporation
Account name: Leadership Fiji Alumni
Account number: 9800611130*





The Leadership Fiji family regretfully lost a member of our Alumni on Thursday, 2nd of June this year. Malakai Veisamasama was a graduate of the Leadership Fiji Program - the piloting graduates of 2002. He was laid to rest on Saturday, 11th June at the Nasinu Cemetery in Suva, following a moving farewell service attended by hundreds of friends and family members. He is survived by his wife Salaima Veisamasama and their 5 children and fondly remembered by many who knew him.

Leadership Fiji's, Board Chairman, William Parkinson paid a special tribute to Mala (as he was affectionately known) via a video eulogy which you can watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CC7JGvaUqko&feature=youtu.be&a>

So long Mala.

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

2016 LF Alumni Annual General Meeting (AGM)

June 18th 2016
 Time: 3pm – 6pm
 Venue: Fiji Club, Selbourne Street

Lunch and Learn Session with Mayur Kalbag, Leadership Coach, Corporate Trainer & Author

June 22nd 2016
 Time: 12-2pm
 Venue: Tower 11, Reserve Bank of Fiji

Lunch and Learn Session

September 16th 2016
 Time: 12-2pm
 Venue: TBC (west)

Leadership Fiji 15th Anniversary Celebration & LF2016 Graduation

November 4th 2016
 Time: 7pm
 Venue: TBC

SAVE THE DATES



Sponsorship Acknowledgement



The Fiji Times

