

# PRESS RELEASE



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## Leadership Fiji Appoints New Executive Officer

Leadership Fiji has appointed 2007 Pacific Games Fiji Badminton Silver medalist and former Squash Fiji Rep, Gabriella Wong-Krishna as its new Executive Officer.

Gabriella takes over the baton from Tamara Smith LF2013 who has stepped down to focus on growing her consultancy business, Bold Alliance (Consultancy).

In her role as Executive Officer, Gabriella will be responsible for the overall administration of Leadership Fiji, lead the design, planning and implementation of its program, and support external leadership development programs and events in ways that foster a joint learning process and work on further enhancing how Leadership Fiji can grow to achieve a wider impact in the community.



Board Chairman, William Parkinson said “we are delighted to have Gabriella join us. She comes from a strong administrative and events management background and we are confident Leadership Fiji will continue to grow under her guidance.”

Gabriella started her career at the age of nineteen as the Secretary to the Fiji Badminton Association in a volunteer capacity and was the youngest Pacific Secretary at the World Badminton AGM Meeting held in New Zealand in 2010. She later worked in various companies looking for a role which suited her interests and personality. She worked for P&O Cruises, Munro Leys and Suva Physio Centre to name those that molded her passion and committed work ethics.

In sports, Gabriella won a silver medal in Badminton at the 2007 Pacific Games in Samoa and later became a Fiji Rep for Squash Fiji, ranked 28th in the Pacific Squash Tally, and managed to score a Team bronze medal in the last 2016 Pacific Games in Papua New Guinea. She aims to represent Fiji at a Commonwealth Game but this is on hold while she focuses on raising her beautiful 6-month old daughter.

On her appointment, Gabriella said “I believe that overcoming rather than avoiding your everyday obstacles will help develop oneself both professionally and personally. I look forward to working with the Board and I’m excited about the opportunities and prospects out there to grow and develop Leadership Fiji.”

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For more information about Leadership Fiji, the Executive Director, Ms. Sharyne Fong, can be contacted on 321 4456 or 702 4857, or on email address [executivedirector@leadershipfiji.org](mailto:executivedirector@leadershipfiji.org) or visit our website [www.leadershipfiji.org](http://www.leadershipfiji.org)

## About Leadership Fiji

Leadership Fiji is an independent, non-partisan, non-aligned entity that began in 2000. Following the political upheaval of that year a number of corporate and community leaders met and identified a desperate need to build broadminded and educated leaders across the nation. They were introduced to the concept of Leadership Victoria by Andrew Fairley, who had various business interests in Fiji at the time. This proved a very successful model to follow and with the assistance of Leadership Victoria the first Leadership Fiji program was launched in 2001.

Leadership Fiji is aimed specifically at assisting our emerging leaders to cope with demands of the ever-changing world so that Fiji reaches its full potential in the widest sense. The aim of Leadership Fiji is to expose participants to 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. The result we hope will be the development of a new generation of leaders equipped to take Fiji forward as a united dynamic nation. The program allows members to explore their own values, philosophies, prejudices and beliefs through a variety of issues offered by the program; provides close interaction with Fiji Island leaders in fields such as the private sector, non-governmental organizations, government ministries, youth and faith based organizations.

Current members of the Leadership Fiji Board are:

1. William Parkinson – Chairman
2. Sharyne Fong (LF 2005) – Executive Director
3. Sufi Dean – Director
4. Nancy Loalua (LF2009) - Director
5. Ilaitia Tuinamoala (LF 2009) – Director
6. Avaneesh Raman (LF 2012) – Director
7. Tupou Halofaki (LF 2009) – Member of the Board and Leadership Fiji Alumni President
8. Viliame Waqalaivi (LF 2017) – Member of the Board and Representative/Year Group Leader
9. Gabriella Wong – Executive Officer and Company Secretary