



NON-RESIDENT NEPALI ASSOCIATION, CANADA

BI-MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN (AUGUST-SEPTEMBER) YEAR 2021, ISSUE-1

NRNA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, CANADA

1. Mr. Samrat Kumar Thapa, Chairperson
2. Mr. Dipak Datt Gautam, President
3. Ms. Sangita GC, Vice President
4. Mr. Dipak Sapkota, Vice President
5. Mr. Krishna Neupane, Vice President
6. Mr. Shailendra Chapagain, Vice President
7. Mr. Anup Subedi, General Secretary
8. Mr. Rajendra Pokharel, Secretary
9. Mr. Yaam Bahadur Khatri, Treasurer
10. Mr. Birendra Raut, Spokesperson
11. Ms. Aarita Rai Gurung, Women Coordinator
12. Mr. Suraj Bartaula, Youth Coordinator
3. Mr. Baburam Baniya, Member
14. Mr. Binod Kumar Subedi, Member
15. Mr. Gopal Prasad Bhandari, Member
16. Mr. Laxman Adhikari, Member
17. Mr. Pitanath Poudel, Member
18. Mr. Pitambar Bhattarai, Member
19. Mr. Pramesh Gupta, Member
20. Mr. Raju Bhattarai, Member
21. Mr. Som Gurung, Member
22. Mr. Bishal Ghimire, Member

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Non-Resident Nepali Association, Canada

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Respected Canadian Non-Resident Nepalis, Namaste!

It has already been two months since NRNA-Canada's 10th general convention formed a new executive committee under my leadership. Here is the first news bulletin that we are delighted to share, so you can see all the details from the work done over the last two months. It has taken more time for us to deal with internal affairs in the initial period, especially institutional responsibilities handover and updating, planning, interaction and nominating additional new members to the executive committee.



Dipak Datta Gautam
President

Having formed various subcommittees, an advisory committee and policy drafting committee, we have laid the foundation for the organization to work at a faster pace. In this regard, a special policy drafting committee led by social activist and senior personality Jyoti Vaidya, with lawyer Keshab Dahal and outgoing executive member Ananta Acharya as members, has been formed to formulate appropriate policy by consulting stakeholders in order to implement direct election more scientifically.

Likewise, the community will also be involved on issues from long-term importance to the organization and its planning process, so they will be able to take ownership and implement the decision in the long run. The Non-Resident Nepali Association Canada (NRNA Canada) must be owned and operated by the community. Community involvement and ownership is essential to its sustainability.

Therefore, it is important to implement the activities based on the suggestions and recommendations of the community. In this spirit, NRNA Canada organized its first interaction with the Nepalese community in Calgary, and it will be continued in other parts of Canada as well. NRNA-Canada has already begun connecting the second generation. NRNA Canada, in partnership with GTA Youth Group (a group of young people of second generation in the GTA), recently organized a painting competition and barbecue event. NRNA Canada and the GTA Youth Group have now launched the program Youth for Yoga focusing on strong mental health.

A group of proposal writing experts is being formed in order to conduct various programs in support of Canadian government and provide technical assistance to other community based organizations if needed. For that, two rounds of discussions have been conducted. Interaction has been done in order for women related program planning. NRNA Canada has many things to do. After discussions with the community, other programs will be made public later. It is not possible to develop NRNA Canada as an umbrella organization without the support of local social organizations and the community. Therefore, the priority of the present executive committee is to build a transparent institution in which everyone feels belonging. I would like to make a heartfelt request to all Nepali organizations and communities to support it.

Thank you



Election of NRNA Canada National Coordinating Council Members and Newly Elected Executive Committee Officials

On July 31, 2021, 19 members of the NRNA Canada National Coordinating Council were elected for a two-year term from 11 constituencies across Canada.

Mr. Dipak Datt, Gautam, Mr. Pitamber Bhattarai, and Ms. Sangita G.C from Brampton, Mr. Birendra Raut and Mr. Som Gurung from Mississauga, Mr. Rajendra Pokharel and Mr. Yaam Bahadur Khatri from Scarborough, Mr. Gopal Prasad Bhandari and Mr. Shailendra Chapagain from Toronto, Mr. Anup Subedi from Ottawa, Mr. Pramesh Gupta from Quebec, and Mr. Raju Bhattarai from British Columbia, Mr. Dipak Sapkota (Western Ontario), Mr. Binod Kumar Subedi from Saskatchewan Baburam Baniya and Samrat Thapa from Calgary, Krishna Neupane from Manitoba, Mr. Laxman Adhikari and Mr. Pitanath Poudel from Edmonton have been elected respectively.

The 14th General Convention convened in Niagara Falls, Ontario, on August 31, 2021, in the presence of 19 newly elected members for the National Coordinating Council (NCC), and the outgoing Executive Committee elected new officials for the Executive Committee.

The election resulted in the selection of Mr. Samrat Thapa as Chairperson, Mr. Dipak Datt Gautam as President, Mr. Anup Subedi as General Secretary, Mr. Rajendra Pokhrel as Secretary, and Mr. Yam Bahadur Khatri as Treasurer. Similarly, Ms. Sangita GC, Mr. Shailendra Chapagain, Mr. Dipak Sapkota and Mr. Krishna Neupane have been unanimously elected as vice-presidents individually.



Important decisions made at the newly elected Executive Committee's first meeting

a) The executive committee has decided to express gratitude to Chief Election Commissioner Gyanendra Pokharel, Member Secretary Dipen Raut Chhetri, Deputy Election Commissioner, Advisors, Election Coordinators from all constituencies, ex-executive committee members, former NRNA-Canada board officials and members, and voters for their contributions in making the 14th convention of NRNA Canada a huge success and to the organizations and individuals that congratulated the newly elected executive committee. It has also decided to express gratitude to outgoing President Chiranjevi Ghimire and the outgoing Executive Committee for their significant contributions to saving Nepalis' lives in Canada and Nepal during the Covid-19 pandemic and conducting landmark Americas regional gatherings event.

b) On behalf from the Executive Committee, it has decided to present the proposal to adopt the direct election system, which has been formally entered in the General Assembly since 2017, at the forthcoming 15th Annual General Assembly.



c) The committee has decided to appoint Mr. Birendra Raut as the spokesperson. Similarly, it has decided to nominate Ms. Arita Rai Gurung (Scarborough), Mr. Suraj Bartaula (British Columbia), and

Mr. Bishal Ghimire (Brampton) as members of the Executive Committee on the basis of their social contribution, geographic representation, and professional attributes. It has also appointed Ms. Arita Rai Gurung as the women coordinator, and Mr. Suraj Bartaula as the youth coordinator.



NRNA Canada's participation in Teej festival events.



On August 21, Women's Chautari Canada hosted a Teej celebration program in Eldorado Park Brampton. NRNA Canada President Dipak Gautam wished all Nepali women a happy Teej and stated that NRNA Canada would work closely with Mahila Chautari and other local organizations in the coming days.

At the programme, Ms.Gita Dawadi, Chairperson of Mahila Chautari, Ms.Sangita GC, Vice President of NRNA Canada, Mr.Dhundi Pandey, NRNA Honorary Council Member, and Mr.Nar Bahadur Tandon, Tourism Envoy, all conveyed their best wishes on the occasion. The programme came to a close under the chairmanship of Ms.Gita Sharma, president of Mahila Chautari,



Similarly, in an another Teej celebration event co-hosted by Nepali Public Relations Committee and Mt. Everest Television, Canada, NRNA Canada President Dipak Gautam wished all Nepali women a happy Teej and stated the opinion that today's primary need in Canada is unity among the Nepali community. The event was chaired by Mr.Purna Kandel, chairman of Mt. Everest Television. The programme was also attended by NRNA Canada Vice President Sangita GC, Secretary Rajendra Pokhrel, Spokesperson Birendra Raut, and Member Som Gurung

Suggestion collection and interaction program



On Saturday, September 5, 2021, the newly elected NRNA Canada Committee held its first suggestion collection and interaction programme at the hall of the Fiji Oman Center in Calgary. The Nepali community in Calgary has made the following essential suggestions to make NRNA Canada better.

- To take initiative to pass the Non-Resident Nepali Citizenship Bill



- To develop a reliable communication system to communicate various activities and decisions of the organization to the general members in time.
- To maintain financial transparency of NRNA Canada.
- To reduce the lifetime membership fee to increase the number of members.
- To make the procedure of general membership as simple as possible, to have representation from all sectors on the membership verification committee, and to make the public membership transparent and accessible at all times
- To increase the participation of women within NRNA-Canada
- To commemorate Nepali Day in a way that makes Nepalis' identity proud and to organize multicultural events
- To form provincial committees of NRNA-Canada in different provinces and to amend the NRNA-Canada's statute so that it can be registered.
- To conduct various programs for the upliftment of the Nepali community in collaboration with various Canadian government agencies

Among those who provided such valuable suggestions were Mr. Purushottam Shrestha, President of Newa Guthi Calgary, Ms. Kalpana Dhakal, Former President of NCSC, Mr. Madhav Dulal, Former Vice President of NRNA Canada, Mr. Dinesh Ghimire, Former NCC Member and Mr. Shrikant Aryal, Vice President of World Nepal, NCSC, Mr. Prakash Palpali, General Secretary, NCSC, Mr. Rajendra Gautam Rajendra Prasai, a member of the Legislative Drafting Task Force on Citizenship Bill, Mr. Gopal Bhatt of NCSC, and rising singer Mr. Yuvraj Gurung were also present.

NCSC President Samir Pandey spoke at the event and advised that the NRNA Canada must pay attention to the need to collaborate with local organisations in order to elevate the organization to new heights. The newly elected committee has been given advice to act in accordance with the mandate of community people. Mr. Rajendra Prasai, a member of the Legislative Drafting Task Force on Citizenship Bill, emphasized that pressure should be exerted to pass the draft bill with the proposed rights and only then should additional rights be debated.

President Dipak Gautam highlighted on the organization's action plan for direct election, financial transparency, decentralization, and inclusive NRNA in an event chaired by Chairperson of NRNA Canada Samrat Thapa.

He also praised the Nepali community in Calgary for maintaining unity and social growth among Nepalis, emphasizing that other communities should learn from it as well. NRNA Canada member Baburam Bania delivered a welcome speech, while former Vice President Madhav Dulal congratulated the newly elected executive committee chairperson, president, and members present during the programme, which was hosted by NCSC General Secretary Prakash Palpali.

Meeting with social leaders in Edmonton

NRNA Canada President Dipak Gautam has hold discussions with social leaders in Edmonton, Canada. NCA President Gayaraj Sharma, Social Worker Dr Arjun KC, Businessman Peshal Bastola, Mr. Madhusudan Pandey, Mr. Laxman Adhikari and Mr. Pitanath Poudel representing NRNA Canada from Edmonton were present in the meeting. The meeting focused on how to grow NRNA Canada as an umbrella organization and collected valuable suggestions of the leaders.

Nepali Flag hoisting ceremony on the occasion of the 7th Nepali Constitution Day



On Thursday, September 23, 2021, NRNA Canada has organized a Nepali flag hoisting ceremony at Parliament House in Toronto, Ontario to commemorate Nepal's 7th Constitution Day. NRNA Canada President Dipak Datt Gautam and Vice President Sangita GC jointly hoisted the Nepali flag on the premise of Parliament House during the ceremony.

Provincial MP Dipak Anand of Malton/Mississauga and another MP, Bhutla Karpoche both conveyed their joy and best wishes on the occasion, saying that they have a unique affinity to Nepal and Nepali people. At the event, a congratulatory message sent by Nepalese Ambassador to Canada Bhriгу Dhungana read out.

Speaker Arnott and MP Karpoche presented the certificate to NRNA Canada President Dipak Gautam to mark Nepal's special day. The majority of those who spoke at the occasion agreed that such activity will deepen Nepal's long-standing friendship with Canada. Various representatives of Nepali organizations, including former and present members of the NRNA Canada, attended the ceremony. Ms. Bimala Sapkota, NRNA North America's Youth Coordinator, moderated the event.

Vote appeal for Canadian Nepalis to be chosen for various awards and singing idol competition.



NRNA Canada expresses its deep admiration and gratitude to the Canadian Nepali candidates who have been selected in the different Award nomination and Singing competition for their significant role and contribution

in enhancing Nepal's dignity, honor, and pride in Canada. Mr. Indra Maharjan, Engineer is a finalist for the Best 25 Immigrant Award. Mr. Jyoti Vaidya, a former NRNA member, advisor and social worker, is a finalist for the Pillar Community Leadership Award. Mr. Yuvaraj Gurung is one of the Top 15 contestants of the Global NRN Singing Idol 2021. Furthermore, NRNA Canada has posted information on the

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respective candidates' voting URLs on its official Facebook page encouraging the public to vote as much as possible so that they can win the contests.

Sincere gratitude to the Ontario Provincial Government and its Head of Government

NRNA Canada would like to thank the Government of Ontario and its Head of Government Premier Doug Ford for donating 21 skid masks, face shields, and other health equipment to the Nepalese government in order to help Nepali people stay safe during the Covid-19 pandemic.

NRNA Canada also thanks everyone who helped make this happen, including the Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs', Office of International Relations and Protocol (OIRP), Provincial MPs Dipak Anand (Mississauga-Malton) and Rudy Cuzzetto (Mississauga-Lakeshore), Honorary Consul General of Nepal to Toronto Dr. Kunjarmani Sharma, and NRNA Canada's outgoing Vice President Bijay Poudel.

Conducting Youth for Yoga program for strong mental health.



YOGA FOR YOUTH
Yoga & Meditation Classes Open
For all Ages
In Association With

Mental Health Program
Organized By
GTA Nepali Youth

Every Sunday (6:30 AM - 9 AM)
@ Everest Taekwondo (120 Clementine Dr. Unit 7, Brampton, ON)

Supported By

HIGHLIGHTS
Yoga & Pranayama
Kritan Dance
Vipassana Meditation
kundalini Meditation / Chakra Healing
Bhajan / Singing / Sharing Session
Snacks

FREE
Event

For More Info:
647-916-4576 | gta nepali youth 8848@gmail.com

Comfortable clothing and yoga mat is recommended

On September 19, 2021, NRNA Canada in collaboration with GTA Nepali Youth Group has launched the Youth for Yoga Program for Strong Mental Health. Yoga and meditation practice classes are being held every Sunday from 6.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. with a focus on youth, school students, and adults who are very busy. People who are

interested to join the programme may contact Everest Taekwondo, 120 Clementine Dr, Unit 7, Brampton, Ontario, Canada, by phone at 6479164576 or by email at gta nepali youth 8848@gmail.com.

Regarding institutional obligation and status handover

On August 28, 2021, the outgoing elected committee of NRNA Canada handed over the office of posts and institutional status including the minutes, bank details, assets, and other pertinent institutional documents to the newly elected committee as follows.

NRN Canada's email, paypal account, Facebook page, and Twitter account, as well as credentials

- A bundle of 345 half-cheques and 165 cheques. A cheque of \$300
- 30 Nepali language books, corporate files, and documents of past tenures
- Banking deposits of NRNA Canada including \$67530.53 in a chequing account, \$3928.61 in a savings account, and \$ 743.04 in a PayPal

The quarterly financial report will have more information about this.

The outgoing President Chiran Ghimire and Treasurer Saroj Bhattarai presented all these institutional status to the newly elected executive committee President Dipak Gautam, General Secretary Anup Subedi, and Treasurer Yaam Khatri. At the

event, NRN Canada's ICC members, Honorary Council Members, Presidents and Representatives of various organizations thanked the outgoing executive committee and congratulated the new executive committee.

Condolences from NRNA Canada

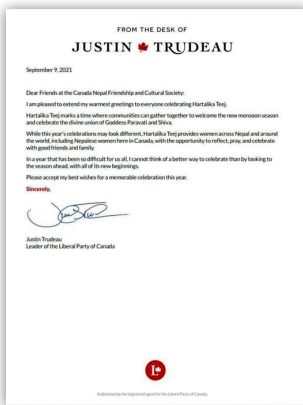


The NRNA Canada Family extends its heartfelt condolences to the family of Angad (Amrit) Bhandari, a Canadian Nepali who passed away at a young age on September 1, 2021. He was a talented musician, singer, and a very decent personality. His death has caused irreparable loss to the non-resident Canadian Nepali community. NRNA Canada made a sincere appeal to all Non-Resident Nepalis to provide financial support to the bereaved family. Mr. Binod Kumar Subedi, a member of NRNA Canada from Saskatchewan has taken initiation to gather funds on behalf of the deceased's family and handed it over to them.



Warmest greetings to the Teej Festival from NRNA Canada

On the occasion of the great festival of Nepali women, Haritalika Teej, NRNA Canada President Dipak Datt Gautam, on behalf of NRNA Canada Family, has extended warm greetings and his best wishes to the women and sisters living in the country and abroad including all Nepalis.



Sincere Gratitude to Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for greeting Teej festival.

On the occasion of the Hindu Nepali Women's festival Haritalika Teej, Justine Trudeau, Canada's Prime Minister, sent a message of good wishes to greet the festival in Canada and around the world. NRNA Canada believes that such messages will help to strengthen Nepal-Canada relations. NRNA Canada has sincerely thanked the Honorable Prime Minister Justine Trudeau for expressing great solidarity with Nepal and promoting Nepali culture and festival.

NRNA Canada's involvement in various activities of Non-Resident Nepali community

NRNA Canada contributed CAD \$ 1,000 to the football tournament organized by Daphne Club in Calgary on 3&4 September 2021. NRNA Canada President Dipak Gautam distributed prizes to the winning teams at the event. In a cultural event that took place in a same day evening Mr. Gautam also urged everyone to support Mr. Yuwaraj Gurung, a competitor on NRNA Singing Idol. NRNA Canada chairperson Samrat Thapa and member Baburam Bania were also present in the event.



In September, the NRNA Canada squad competed in a volleyball competition organized by the Malton Society of Canada. NRNA Canada President Dipak Gautam and the President of the Malton Society jointly inaugurated the opening game. Similarly, the NRNA Canada team reached the semi-final of the volleyball tournament organized by Laliguras Sports and Culture Center in September. The game was jointly inaugurated by NRNA Canada President Dipak Gautam, former

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NRNA Canada President Anil Thapa, Founder President of Laliguras Sports Club Uttam KC and current President Uttam Shrestha. NRNA Canada also contributed CAD \$1,000 to the tournament. NRNA Canada thanks all the players who took part in both games on behalf of the organization.

Participation of NRNA Canada in the seventh Nepalese Constitution Day at the Nepalese Embassy



The Nepalese Embassy in Ottawa, Canada, organized a programme to commemorate Nepal's seventh Constitution Day. At the Nepalese Embassy, His Excellency Bhriгу Dhungana, Ambassador of Nepal to Canada, officially inaugurated the programme. He read out a congratulatory message issued by the President and Prime Minister of Nepal on the occasion of the Constitution Day and highlighted its importance. He also emphasized the importance of Nepal-Canada diplomatic relations, which has existed since 1965. General Secretary Anup Subedi represented NRNA Canada at the event. General Secretary Anup Subedi briefed about the newly elected NRNA Canada team and suggested that the Embassy should play an important role in resolving the problems faced by non-resident Nepalis. The number of guests and participants was limited to 25 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dashain Greetings from NRNA Canada

On behalf of the NRNA Canada family, NRNA Canada President Dipak Gautam has extended his warmest greetings to all Nepalese citizens, both at home and abroad, on the occasion of Vijaya Dashami 2078, the greatest festival of Nepalese people. He also wishes everyone good health, happiness, and prosperity on the occasion.



For your advice, suggestions or feedback

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