

Annual Report

**Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA)
National Coordination Council (NCC)
Finland**

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Activity report	3
2.1 Summer Picnic	3
2.2 Makalu Volleyball Tournament.....	3
2.3 Run for Nepal	4
2.4 Collaboration meetings with other organisations.....	4
2.5 Charity Project.....	4
2.6 Oulu death case	5
2.7 Support to flood victims in Terai.....	5
2.8 Participation at regional/global meeting	5
2.9 Nep-Fin Haate-Maalo Network and collaboration with the MFA and Nepalese Embassy..	5
2.10 Nordic Vela.....	6
2.11 Nepali New Year event	6
2.12 Dance class and dress arrangement	6
2.13 Literature event.....	6
2.14 International Women's Day.....	7
2.15 Pikku Joulu	7
2.16 Discussion with the Nepalese Ambassador to Finland.....	7
2.17 Discussion with the Finnish Ambassador to Nepal.....	8
2.18 Teej Dar Party	8
2.19 Participation at World Village Festival	8
3. Tentative Activity Plan for 2018-2019.....	9

1. Introduction

The fifth Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Non-Resident Nepali Association, National Coordination Council (NRNA-NCC Finland) was held on 3 June 2017. The AGM approved the name of newly elected Chairperson, ICC Representative and 14 board members as declared by election committee. The first board meeting, which was held on 05.06.2017, passed the Code of Conduct for the future board meeting. Similarly, the 1st board meeting nominated NRNA Finland's advisors, Media Coordinator and Deputy Youth Coordinator.



2. Activity report

2.1 Summer Picnic

Like every other year, the summer picnic was organized at Leikkipuisto Mustapuuro, Helsinki was organised on 15 July 2017 by NRNA Women's forum. There was large participation of children and the youngsters. There were many fun games organized for children and adults. Everyone seemed very happy and enthusiastic. The picnic was potluck where everyone brought their own food to share with everyone. Since it was also the month of Shrawan, all the mehendi lovers were lined up to apply some henna. Overall the picnic was very fun filled.



2.2 Makalu Volleyball Tournament

NRNA Finland, together with Finnish Nepalese Society (FNS), organized friendly volleyball match between Nepalese community in Finland on 2nd and 3rd August 2017 where 6 male and 2 female teams participated. The Himalayan Spikes A was the winner of male team and the female group of the FNS were the winner of the volleyball tournament. The main sponsor of the tournament was Ravintola Makalu.



Similarly, NRNA Finland coordinated a support for Nepalese team (FC FIN NEP) from Finland to participate a football tournament in Norway.

2.3 Run for Nepal

Run For Nepal has been an annual flagship event of NRNA Finland. It started in 2012 named as 'Run for Health' to spread the awareness of being healthy while running for noble cause. Last year it was organised on 19 August 2018. There were about 50 runners participating for the event. Collected funds were used to support flood victims of Terai and remaining fund was donated to Dhurmus Sunti Foundation to build houses for the flood victims in Terai.



News about RFN 2017: <http://www.nepalinepali.com/archives/35464>

2.4 Collaboration meetings with other organisations

As soon as the new board was formed, collaborations meetings with the different Finland-based Nepalese and Finnish organisations were being held. The discussion was very fruitful, and we hope to improve the collaborations and do more joint activities in the future.

2.5 Charity Project

We received a total of four proposals from our public call and selected a proposal on establishing a computer lab and e-library in Janajagriti Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Melamchi Municipality-11, Katunje, of Sindhupalchowk District. We supported 10 computers, 1 printer and 1 projector whereas school bought new furniture, carpet etc for the computer lab. The school alumni are taking care of training to teachers and school management committee is responsible for its sustainability. Once the students are trained on use of computer, an e-library software will be installed so that the students will have access to national and international journals/articles.



News here: <https://www.karobardaily.com/news/migration/5724>

2.6 Oulu death case

A very sad incident happened in August 2017. A Nepalese, Anish Jung Kunwar, who was living in Oulu committed suicide. NRNA was informed about the case and we immediately acted as required. A taskforce was formed to handle the case. A public call was announced to collect funds and the deceased body was repatriated to Nepal as per the wish of the family.

2.7 Support to flood victims in Terai

NRNA-Finland, together with FNS, Sanzaal and other organisations joined hands to support flood victims in Terai. A taskforce was formed to promptly support the affected communities in the Terai. The Nep-Fin Hate Maalo Network and Green Governance in Nepal helped relief materials distributions. The remaining fund was donated to the Dhurmus Suntali Foundation to build houses for the flood victims.



2.8 Participation at regional/global meeting

The 10th European Regional Meeting (ERM) was held in Frankfurt on 28 and 29 July 2017. A total of four members from NRNA Finland participated the meeting. Similarly, A total of six members from NRNA Finland participated the 8th NRN Global Conference and NRNA International General Assembly in Kathmandu from 14-17 September 2017.

2.9 Nep-Fin Haate-Maalo Network and collaboration with the MFA and Nepalese Embassy

Nep-Fin Haate-Maalo Network is a platform for Finland educated Nepalese professionals (Alumni of Finland) as well as other stakeholders regarding Nepal and Finland to come together and network with each other. This is a joint initiative of NRNA NCC Finland Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland and Finnish Embassy Nepal. There have been some meeting and discussion going on through this group. However, the progress with the initiative itself is a bit slow. We hope to continue discussion with these partners and explore opportunity for small scale investments in Nepal.

A number of meeting with Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Finland and with the Finnish Embassy in Nepal were held to discuss about alumni network, investment opportunities in Nepal and collaborations between the organisations. News about one of such meeting is here: <http://bit.ly/2suKwKY>, <http://www.finland.org.np/public/default.aspx?contentid=363933&nodeid=35062&contentlan=2&culture=en-US>

2.10 Nordic Vela

The 3rd Nordic vela was organised in Helsinki on 17 February 2018. NRNA representatives from Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland participated the vela. A joint Helsinki declaration was released at the end of the vela. We agreed to improve collaboration between Nordic NRNs in the future.



2.11 Nepali New Year event

NRNA Finland has been organizing cultural programs in every Nepali New year. Cultural program was organized on the occasion of Nepali New Year 2075, on 7th of April 2018. The main attraction of the cultural program was dance performances by children who were students of dance class led by women forum of NRNA Finland. Performances by local Nepali bands were also entertaining. Dance performances, singing performances, Fashion show with Nepali dresses, poems, and lottery were presented too. More than 300 audiences were present in the program.



2.12 Dance class and dress arrangement

There is a growing number of second-generation Nepalese in Finland mainly in Helsinki. With the aim to preserve and promote Nepalese culture and music among the next generation NRNA Women forum Finland has been running a dance class to Nepalese children since July 2017. Considering the importance of cultural dresses in flourishing Nepalese culture in Finland we bought from Nepal. The trained children have been participating different cultural events e.g. Nepalese new year program, world village festival, INAS dance competition, women's day program etc.



2.13 Literature event

Literacy day was marked in the capital Helsinki on the day of SHRI PANCHAMI (Basanta Panchami) on 22 January 2018. A total of 20 literature lovers were gathered and their creation was presented. Besides the presenters from Finland, many poets and gajal were sent from Nepal and other countries. This day

remarks the start of learning and writing in Nepal, also known as Saraswoti Puja. NRNA Finland has been organizing this kind of event every year in order to familiarize Nepali language, culture, literature among the Nepalese living in Finland.

News here: <https://www.kantipurdaily.com/diaspora/2018/02/03/20180203120954.html>

2.14 International Women's Day

The Women Forum of NRNA organised the International Women's Day event on 11 March 2018. The program included various activities as such; quiz regarding women, gave information on different services provided by women welfare organization. Representatives from different organizations were invited. We also gave presentation on our '1 euro project' and donations we did for 'uterus prolapse project' and sponsoring education of a child in Dolpa.



News here: <https://www.karobardaily.com/news/migration/3123>

2.15 Pikku Joulu

Pikku Joulu was held 23rd December 2017 in Kontula nuorisotalo. Pikku Joulu is celebrated every year by the board. This event is celebrated with the current board members and ex board members with their families. Lots of fun games were organized. Everyone prepared some delicious food for the event. Through the secret santa game, everyone got their gifts from Santa of the evening.

2.16 Discussion with the Nepalese Ambassador to Finland

H.E. Yuba Nath Lamsal visited Helsinki from 24-28 April 2018. NRNA-Finland organised an interaction program with the Nepalese community on 27 April. The discussion was fruitful to learn various activities by the Embassy. The Ambassador had an opportunity to learn about various problems faced by the Nepalese community in Finland



2.17 Discussion with the Finnish Ambassador to Nepal

NRNA-Finland and the Finnish Ambassador to Nepal Mr. Jorma Suvanto had a meeting on 28 August 2017 in Helsinki. We briefed him about our ongoing and future activities here in Finland and in Nepal. Ambassador Suvanto expressed concerns on the disasters faced by Nepal in recent years. We discussed about Haate Maalo network and the potential of Nepalese alumni to the development of Nepal. We agreed to work together in future. NRNA Finland is the member of the Development Diplomacy Standing Committee and has been participating regular meeting, which is being coordinated by the Nepalese Embassy.



2.18 Teej Dar Party

As the occasion of Teej is special for Nepalese women, Women forum organized Teej Dar party to flourish the unity and sisterhood among Nepali women residing in Helsinki. There were about 30-40 women and men. Everyone prepared some food and shared with everyone. After the food, music and dance followed. Since Teej is all about dancing, everyone enjoyed the traditional music and danced till they could. There was a good participation of women from different sub group of Nepalese society.

2.19 Participation at World Village Festival

The World Village festival was held on May 26-27, 2018. Every community residing in Finland presents their culture through dance, clothes or food. Likewise, Nepali community residing in Finland got a chance this year to present Nepalese culture through showcasing Nepalese clothes and dance on May 26. Children from Nepali dance class and others performed beautiful cultural dances on this occasion. Similarly, cultural fashion show was held showcasing different cultural dresses of Nepal.



3. Tentative Activity Plan for 2018-2019

Activity Plan	2018						2019					
Activity	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
European Regional Meeting												
Run For Nepal												
Summer Fun for Children												
Dance Class												
Pikku Joulu												
EU level volleyball												
Nepali New Year Celebration												
Guardianship Support Program												
Collaboration with different organisations												
Biannual General Meeting												