

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



**Annual Report 2015-2016**

## 1. Introduction

The fourth annual general meeting (AGM) of Non Resident Nepali Association, National Coordination Council (NRNA,NCC-Finland) was held on 27 June, 2015. The AGM approved the name of newly elected chairperson, ICC-Representative and 15 board members as declared by election committee. First board meeting(held on 07.07.2015 in Cafe Paluwa) of newly elected chairperson and other board members were able to form the executive board for 2015-2017.

## 2. NRNA One tenure one Charity Project

The devastating 8.1 ML Earthquake of April 2015 in Nepal left more than 9000 people dead and more than 23000 injured and billions in damages. The country is still struggling to recuperate from the aftermath of the disaster. To aid in this process NRNA NCC Finland undertook the task of of reconstructing an earthquake struck school as its term project for the current board.



A proposal call was published through NRN Finland's communication channels on 27 September 2015. 4 proposals were received and the project to a reconstruct Janmabhumi Prathamik Vidhyalaya of Virpani VDC, ward 2 of Ramechhap district was selected.

A coordination team was set up with the steering committee of the community school and members of our board. The budget of reconstruction was set at 11,00,000 Nrs and NRNA NCC Finland committed to contribute 6000 euros to the budget. The rest was supplemented by the school's steering committee with the help of wood from their community forest as well as donations of labor from the local community.

The school construction then began swiftly and NRNA NCC Finland closely monitored the development of the project. NRNA NCC Finland conducted various events such as "Run for Charity", "Snack Bar in the literature event" to raise funds for the project. The committed amount was sent in four installments. The school construction was completed in due time considering the months long blockade in the country that hindered everything and the students were once again able to have classrooms to further their education.



NRNA NCC Finland's Chairperson, Mr. Balkrishna Shrestha inaugurated the newly constructed school on 15th July 2016.



### 3. Activity Report

- Ravintola Himalaya NRNA Volleyball Tournament 2015 (12-13 August 2015)

NRNA Finland organized the Volleyball tournament in 2015 with the aim of unity, harmony and friendship among Nepalese residing in Finland. At the meantime, board decided to keep the surplus amount in 'NRNA Finland Emergency Fund'. There were six teams participating in Men Volleyball and four teams in women's volleyball. Along with them, one junior team participated to play friendly match. Beside junior team, certain entry fee was collected from the other teams. Ravintola Himalaya was sponsor of the event while Ravintola Satkar and Spice Town were co-sponsors. 600 euros were collected after expenditure for Emergency fund. Overall event was coordinated by Sports Coordinator Mr. Naran Magar.



- Run for Charity 2015

‘Run for charity’ is the biggest charity event organized by NRNA-Finland. In this event People run for a cause and they search for sponsors. They write their sponsors’ name on their t-shirts and run. This time, the target of the collected fund was for reconstruction and recovery from the aftermath of massive earthquake in Nepal, April 2015. Through our official facebook page, we announced for call for proposal and the best needed project for reconstruction was selected. Among the four proposal submitted, we selected “Reconstruction Janmabhumi Prathamik vidhyalaya from April Earthquake” in Aapchaur Bhirpani-3, Ramechap, Nepal.

There were 30 runners in different categories. Including volunteers and audiences there were about 60 people in the event. A total of 4491 euro was collected. There were sponsors from all around Finland. Heino Tukku was our main sponsor with a contribution of 300 euro. All participants were awarded with certificates and medals. Winners were awarded with winner cup and medals.



- Quiz Contest 2015

Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) Finland has been organizing quiz context from past five years. The main objective of the event was to make Nepalese residing in Finland update on current affairs of Nepal, Finland and the world. In addition to this, the event also aimed at familiarizing Nepali Ukhan-Tukka & Gaukhane Katha to new generation. A subcommittee was formed for managing Quiz Contest. Mr. Bal Krishna Shrestha, Mr. Sijan Shrestha, Mr. Gautam Raj Moktan, Mr. Prem Raj Adhikari and Mr. Deepak KC were nominated for Subcommittee from NRNA board and Mr. Bikes Raj Upreti and Mr. Bhawani Chamlagain were nominated from outside the board. Subcommittee had excellently prepared questions and runned program smoothly. Ex. NRNA ICC member Mr. Sushil Gyawali had worked as a quiz master.

In 2015, the fourth quiz contest was held in Helsinki on November 21, 2015. There were 9

registered teams consisting of three members in each. Light snacks and tea was offered by the NRNA Finland. Team Manakamana won the competition and Alto Nepalese became the first runner up. Prizes, Medals and Certificates were distributed to the winners. Ravintola Gorkha and Ravintola Yeti Nepal also supported the event by providing the gift vouchers.



- Helsinki Literature Festival 2016 (13 Feb, 2016)

The event was organized in the auspicious day of Shree Panchami. It was an open program where poets were invited to recite their poems, stories, essays and stand up comedies. Two upcoming writers living in Helsinki were interviewed as inspirations. A total of 20 poets from Helsinki performed in the program hall, while poets from Nepal, Finland, Japan, Canada and India recited their poems via Skype. The average number of audience was 70. This event was broadcasted LIVE from YouTube. Food stall was organized to collect the funds for Ramechhap School project. The stall team was coordinated by Mr. Gautam Raj Moktan. Cafe Paluwa provided gift hampers for best three presenters as well as NepalFinland.net assisted in broadcasting the event through youtube.





- MaHa Yatra 2016

Maha Yatra 2016 was one of the biggest and successful event of this tenure. This event was organized on the auspicious occasion of Nepali new year 2073 on 10th April 2016. The ‘MAHA Team’ including legend artists Mr. Madan Krishna Shrestha and Mr. Haribamsha Acharya along with singers Ms. Mandabi Tripathi, Mr. Yaman Shrestha, artists Mr. Narendra Kansakar and Mr. Mohit Acharya had performed their great performance. Dances by local artists in between their performances made event more entertaining. Event was organized in Gloria Hall, Helsinki and the event was successful with around 500 audiences. Moreover, about 5000 euro was saved after all expenditures. This event was covered by various national media.





- Run for Nepal 2016

‘Run for Nepal’ is the biggest charity event of NRNA-Finland. Every year NRNA-Finland has been organising this event. This time a mutual concept was taken among the Nordic countries, and gave the name of the event as ‘RUN FOR NEPAL’. It was a friendly running competition in order to collect fund as well as running helps to maintain a healthy life. The objective of the event was to collect fund for NRNA house building project in Laprak village and half of the amount was for ‘NRNA-Finland emergency fund’. Total sum of 3568 € was collected.

There were 26 runners, all together with non-participants and board members there were about 40 people. Winners, 1<sup>st</sup> runner up and 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up were awarded with certificates and medals.



- Nepali Language class with Moniheli

Nepali language program initiated by Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) Finland in cooperation with Moniheli ry is hugely popular among the Nepalese community. This program aims to teach Nepali language and culture to the Nepalese children residing in Helsinki region. The targeted group of this course is the children of different ages who were raised /born here in Finland and want to learn the Nepali language/culture.

NRNA–Finland is one of the active organizations who represent the Nepalese people residing in Finland. According to Statistics of Finland, there were 2951 Nepalese residing in the country at the end of 2015. This number is made of different professionals, their spouses and children and students studying at Finnish universities. The number of kids of Nepalese origin living in Helsinki region (Helsinki, Vantaa, and Espoo) is also increasing rapidly. Most of the Nepalese parents want their kids to learn mother language and cultures despite raising them in Finland. There is a slight fear or concern in the community that ethnic values may disappear due to the growing number of children with Finnish cultures. The program of teaching-learning is succeeding due to the huge financial support of Moniheli.





### *Selections of students*

In order to run this program, NRNA Finland had an open vacancy announcement for eligible Teachers /instructors who are able to teach children of different ages with a sufficient knowledge of Finnish schooling system. The hiring process ended at the end of November/December 2016 selecting two instructors namely: Mr. Ramji Pandey and Mr. Bhuwan Pokharel, informing the classes would run starting in January 017. Meanwhile, NRNA arranged several meetings with parents about the expectations and participation of their children as well as arranged the resources of teaching materials. In addition, booking of two rooms for two different days were arranged based on the crowdsourcing method of parents-NRNa meetings. The choices were given to parents where they wanted to send their kids to take the course based on their location and school. Later, it was chosen Kontula Youth



centre (Kontula Nuorisotalo) and social house of Pasila for every Tuesday and Friday. There were about 40 children signed up for the course who were at the age of 8-18. Further, the course was designed as an after school activities primarily not hindering them from their major tasks such as school activities.

### ***Student activities and curriculum***

The classes in both places were amazingly great in the beginning. However, many kids got other activities in their school and outside that used to come in Pasila classes. So, NRNA decided not to run the classes in Pasila instead extended in Kontula where majority of the students signed up. Furthermore, one of the teachers had to leave the work by some reason and another teacher was hired to continue the work. Moreover, time tables for two classes running on every Tuesday are extended up to three hours with two small breaks in between. During the breaks, children from two classes greet each other and share the experiences. This opportunity not only gives them a chances to talk with new friends but also learn something from each other.

The draft curriculum for both the classes was designed by the teachers based on the student's' level of language which was tested on the orientation day, though the number of students were increased week after week and so the different levels. Therefore, Teachers had a discussion about curriculum and agreed to teach similar subject under the major heading. Also, they divided the group with more skillful to the beginner. The good thing about the group is that almost all of students are able to speak Nepali fluently though the written knowledge is very weak comparing other skills. Therefore writing is being the main focus on teaching. Teaching methods typically includes verbal, printed materials reading-writing, language games etc.

With the limited course period and time, both groups of children have shown a great character and improved on their skills of learning which is fueled by their attendances, motivation and interests despite having a compact space in the class. Even more, children are about to form a gathering classes even after the school break. Below is the student's attendances, contents of study and the dates attached:

Photo:

- Tourism Promotion Program- Nepal Night 2017

Nepal- Night, a tourism promotion program, was organized in coordination with Nepal Tourism Board and Society of Travel and Tour Operators Nepal (SOTTO) on 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 in Scandic Paasi, Helsinki. The main objective of event was to improve the number of Finnish tourist travelling to Nepal and promote 'Visit Nepal- Europe 2017'.



President of SOTTO Mr. Anil Lama gave a brief presentation on the purpose of 'Nepal-Night' as well as Nepal and Nepal as a travel destination. There were various Finnish travel and tour operators companies present in the event Cosy Finland, Matkamieli, Tjareborg, Kontiki, Intiakeskus, Matkantekijat to name some of them. After a couple of presentations, time was given for B2B session where travel and tour companies from Nepal and Finland had time to talk about potential tourism opportunities, plan on how to improve the promotion of Nepal tourism in Finland.

There were eight Nepali delegates from Nepal Tourism Board including NRNA ICC Women Co-ordinator Sapila Rajbhandari from Russia. At the end of program Finnish tour and travel operators were handed out certificates of participation and token of love from Nepal.

Main objectives of the event:

- Tourism promotion of Nepal 'Visit Nepal- Europe 2017 '
- Business to business meeting between Nepali and Finnish travel and tour agencies
- Promoting travel packages such as cultural travel package, religious travel package and various trekking travel packages

- New Year 2074 Celebrations

New Year Celebration 2074 was held on 30 April 2017, a couple weeks after the actual new year day because of the unavailability of suitable venue. Although the event was delayed it was a grand success. It was held from 17:30 and 22:00 on 30 April, 2017 in Rusthollarinkuja 3, 00910 Helsinki. There were approximately 250 participants in the event. The purpose of the event was to gather Nepalese diaspora living in Finland and exchange new year greetings and enjoy Nepali music and cultural performances. Representatives of NRNA and other Nepali associations gave new year day speeches. Nepali children and youth entertained the audience with beautiful songs, dances , poems, stand up comedy, etc. There approximately 11 performances.

Participants of Nepali language and literature class organized by NRNA in coordination with Moniheli ry were awarded certificates of participation and Nepali books.



Lucky draw lottery was also organized in order have fun and to raise funds for charity.  
Delicious momo and samosa were served to the participants.

- **Pikku Joulu**

NRNA Finland celebrates pikkujoulu annually among its board-members, their family members, active members of NRNA women forum, and active volunteers. This year NRNA also invited their previous board members and their family. NRNA has already 10 years long history and current board decided to remember and honor all ex-board members and their contribution.

The objective of the event is to celebrate the hard work everyone has done throughout the year and to honor the works and efforts all volunteers, board and women forum active members have put to make NRNA's activities successful.

The event was opened with warm glögi and Joulu torttu. Snacks, tea and drinks were also served during the event. Different games were played to add pleasure. And the winner of the game was awarded with nice gifts.

All the existing board members contributed in making delicious dinner for everyone. Music and Dance and individual performances. Secret Santa was the show of the night. Santa gave gifts to everyone.

- **Chhaka panja Show in Finland**

Superhit Nepali movie Chhakka Panja was screened in Helsinki and Tampere. Movie in Helsinki as premiered in Kino Sheryl (Hämeentie 135) on 25<sup>th</sup> November and on 13<sup>th</sup> November in Hervanta Tampere. Movie was screened in coordination with distributor Highlights Nepal entertainment. The main objective of screening movie to collect charity for supporting to preserve Nepali literature and



culture. After all the expenses, about 1500 euro money was collected.



#### 4. Women Forum Activities

- Women's Day- 8th March 2015 & 13th March 2016

To celebrate international Women's day, NRNA Women's forum organized an event to gather Nepali women in Finland on both years 2015 and 2016, New members for 1 euro project were made on the same event. On both years event, ideas of participants regarding further activities were collected taking as guidelines for future activities.

This event also aims to include different entertainment activities and distribution of rose to women participants.



- Celebration of Shrawan – 26th July 2015

This event was organized to celebrate cultural value for the month of Shrawn.

Event included different Nepali cuisines and Mehndi (henna) art tattoos including different games.



- Ravintola Päivä – 16th August 2015 & 21st May 2016

Participated in Ravintola Päivä with different Nepali Cuisines aiming to raise funds. A total of 1000 euros was collected altogether from both events.



- Sivous Päivä – 29th August 2015

On 29th August Women's Forum participated in Siivous Päivä day.

It was a test event on women's Forum plan to organise and develop fund raising event based on recycling or used goods.



- Teej with Komal Oli – 9th September 2015

Teej event 2015 was celebrated with popular Nepali Mr. singer Komal Oli in Astoria hall (Astoriasali, Isorobertinkatu 14). The event was entertaining.





- Summer Picnic (16th July 2016)

Nepalese residence in Finland is growing up yearly, especially in the capital city, Helsinki. Even inside Helsinki there are many Nepalese societies. As culture is a protective layer for every human being, Summer picnic was done with the aim of bringing Nepalese people together, develop mutual harmony and preserve the feeling of belongingness to a society with the similar culture. It was an event where different group of people can come together, got to know each other, share and enjoy which further enhance their relationships. Similarly, it was an opportunity for parents to give their children their own cultural environment. About 60-70 people were present in the event.





## 5. ICC matters

- Supported for NRNA building

Non-Resident Nepali Association has already been established in more than 70 countries but it does not have its own facilitated central office. Since long, it has been in discussion to have own office building for head office in Kathmandu. Finally , land is purchased and construction phase will start soon. From NRNA finland, side 1000 euro has been donated for constructing NRNA building.

- participated in 7th global conference

7th global conference was held in Kathmandu between 14-17 October 2015. ICC member Mr. Devi Dutta Sharma attended the conference. Mr. Shesh Ghale was elected as the Chairman of NRNA ICC.

- Second Nordic meeting (Stockholm, Sweden)

To work closely with Nordic NRNs, concept of Nordic council meeting was started in 2013. To continue that idea, second Nordic meeting was organized in Stockholm, Sweden on 7th June 2016. NRNA-Finland's Chairman Mr. Bal Krishna Shrestha, Vice chair Mr. Gautam Raj Moktan, Treasurer Mr. Tekendra Timsina and ICC member Mr. Devi Dutta Sharma participated in the second Nordic Meeting from NRNA Finland.

- 9th European regional meeting and 7th women conference

9th European regional meeting and 7th women conference was held in Copenhagen, Denmark from 30 to 31 July 2016. Chairman Mr. Bal Krishna Shrestha, ICC member Mr. Devi Dutta Sharma and Vice chairman Mr. Gopal Aryal participated in the conference. NRNA Finland supported with 500 euro for the conference. The members presented activities from Finland in the conference. Active member of NRNA women forum member Ms. Renu Aryal was participated from NRNA women forum Finland.



## 6. Others:

- Participation in Global village Festivals

NRNA Finland had participated at Global Festival 2017 which was held on 27 and 28th of May .

Typical nepali dances were performed on first and second day. Sarika Adhikari and Ishan Kafle had performed dance on first day. Sudarshan Bhandari, Pawan Panday, Akriti Kharel and Sanskriti Kharel had performed memorable folk dance on second day.





- Demonstration against indian unofficial blockade

NRNA Finland submitted memorandum to the Indian Embassy Finland against Indian unofficial blockade in Nepal. Around 20 people were there during the protest.





- Meeting with Members of parliaments (18 May 2016)

NRNA Finland had an unofficial meeting with four parliament members Mr. Bikash Lamsal (Parbat), Mr. Dor Pd. Upadhaya (Kapilbastu), Ms. Pabata DC Chaudary (Dang) and Ms. Mina Pun (Baglung) during their visit to Finland.



- Meeting with Chief justice

Chief Justice of Nepal Mr. Kalyan Shrestha had visited Finland on the official invitation of government of Finland during April 2016. To have some informal discussion with his team, board members of NRNA Finland had meet them and discussed about new constitution of Nepal.

- Help death case in Finland

Mr. Dipak Rai who is from Khotang district died in Finland in April 2016. An official information was sent to NRNA Finland from the Embassy of Nepal, Denmark and asked for possible help on this case. Chairman Mr. Bal Krishna Shrestha had coordinated this case with their family and the Embassy. A big sum of money was needed to send his remains to Nepal. A total of 1001 euros was donated by board members and from NRNA emergency fund.

- Interaction with the Nepalese candidate of the Helsinki municipal election 2017

An informal meeting of Nepalese living in Helsinki was held in Simonkatu 8, Helsinki on 22 March 2017. NRNA representatives Mr. Bal Krishna, Mr. Gautam Moktan, Mr. Devi dutta Sharma, Mr. Sijan

Shrestha, Mr. Shrawan Khanal, Mr. Narayan Thapa and Mr. Basanta Gautam were present in the meeting besides other Nepalese residents of Helsinki.

The municipal candidate, Ms. Byoma Tamrakar, shared her vision and agenda of her candidacy. She also clarified what municipal election is meant for Nepalese people living in Finland. Participants asked her about her future plans especially issues related to immigration, Nepalese people's problems etc.

## 7. Alumni Network Initiatives

- Meeting with MoFA

**Venue:** MFA

**Date:** 12 May 2016

**Participants:**

NRNA-Finland: Bal Krishna Shrestha, Sijan Shrestha, Gautam Raj Moktan, Basanta Gautam

MFA: Sebastian Gahnström

**Minutes of the meeting:**

The main objective of this meeting was to initiate the establishment of a platform/network connection for Nepalese and Finnish business interests. Mr. Sebastian made a short presentation on objective of the alumni network, possible activities, some ideas on how to get started and possible supports from the MFA/Embassy.

**Action points:**

- Setting up the network
  - Collecting names and basic information May-July 2016

- Setting up social network platforms, invitations May-July 2016
  - Champions: the five champions, inviting others interested to join
  - Discussions: name, logo, other communication May-July 2016 for Nep-Fin Haate-Maalo
  - First events:
    - Sauna event in July if ok for the Finnish Ambassador in Kathmandu (Mr. Jorma)
    - Kick-off later in the summer or autumn
- Meeting with Finnish Graduates in Nepal

**Venue:** Indreni Complex, New Baneshwor

**Date:** 2 July 2016

**Participants:**

NRNA-Finland: Bal Krishna Shrestha, Basanta Gautam

Alumni: Ananta Bhadra Lamichhanne, Rajesh Rai, Madan Kadariya, Prabhat Man Sainju, Saurav, Dhungana, Sita Pun, Udeep Shakya



**Minutes of the meeting:**

The main objective of this meeting was to meet and discuss with the Finnish graduates who are in Nepal. We discussed about the alumni initiative and possible business linkages between the two



countries. The meeting provided a good opportunity to know each other and their respective work in Nepal.

**Action points:**

- Sharing of contact details of all the participants
- Database creation to form Alumni
- Joining Nep-Fin Haate-Maalo facebook page
- Sauna event sometime soon at Finnish Embassy in Kathmandu

- Preparation meeting with MoFA

**Venue:** Basecamp Restaurant, Helsinki

**Date:** 30 August 2016

**Participants:**

NRNA-Finland: Bal Krishna Shrestha, Basanta Gautam

MFA: Sebastian Gahnström

**Minutes of the meeting:**

The delegation from Nepal (Baikuntha Aryal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Narayan Dhakal, Under Secretary, Ministry of Finance) are visiting Finland from 5-8 September to participate meeting with the MFA to discuss bilateral co-operations. NRNA Finland will have at least two opportunities to meet and discuss with them.

**Action points:**

- Informal dinner meeting and discussion with the Nepalese delegation on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
- Formal presentation to the Finnish companies about NRNA, it's activities and potential future cooperation on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
- Meeting and discussion with the MFA

- Meeting MoFA representative and Delicates from Nepal

**Venue:** Gorkha Restaurant, Helsinki

**Date:** 5 Sept 2016

**Participants:**

Board members and active members of NRNA-Finland

MFA: Sebastian Gahnström, Kristina

**Minutes of the meeting:**

NRNA Finland met and discussed with the Nepalese delegation. The discussion focused on presentation of NRNA and its activities, presentation of alumni network and its plans, discussion on business opportunities in Nepal and possible support from GoN. The members of the NRNA asked many questions to the Nepalese delegates. Main questions were: how to do business in Nepal, what are the policy level obstacles and how GoN can help us etc. The delegation team took most of the time to answer and clarify the questions from the participants.

**Action points:**

- GoN to help and facilitate business opportunity from Finland to Nepal
- NRNA to keep in touch with the Nepalese delegates

● **Nepal Business Event**

**Venue:** Finnpartnership, Uudenmaankatu 16 B, Helsinki

**Date:** 7 August 2016

**Participants:**

NRNA-Finland: Bal Krishna Shrestha, Basanta Gautam

MFA: Sebastian Gahnström, Jetta Kuivalainen, Sinikka Antila, Kristina, Birgit Nevala, Antti Urvas, Sargit Salakari

Finnish Companies: Jan Anderson and Suman Khadka (Wärtsilä), Tuomo Kauranne (Arbonaut), Kimmo Pajula (Finnmap), Tuomo Pikkarainen (Aquaminerals), Teemu Kokkonen (RK-housing), Viljami Kettunen (Foxley Consulting), Mikko Vesikukka (Combi Works Oy), Pamela White (FCG)



**Minutes of the meeting:**

NRNA took an opportunity to hear ongoing and future business/development activities from Finland to Nepal. NRNA also introduced and presented its activities in front of the MFA, Nepalese delegates and Finnish business companies. Both MFA and Nepalese delegates praised and supported NRNA's initiatives.

**Action points:**

- NRNA to follow-up with the key business companies who are interested in doing businesses in Nepal
- NRNA to contact Finnish embassy in Kathmandu for sauna event

- Meet-up with the alumni in Helsinki

An informal gathering of the Nepali alumni from Finnish universities was organized on 24 February, 2017 in Restaurant Gurkha, Helsinki. The objectives of this informal meeting were to get to know each other and discover the opportunities amongst themselves.

NRNA Finland representatives Bal Krishna, Gautam Raj Moktan, Basanta Gautam, Devi Dutta Sharma, Santosh Pant were present at the gathering. And the alumni present were Bijay Baniya, Bijendra Neupane, Santosh Mehta, Byoma Tamrakar, Sarina and Jaganath Kafle. Nepal Desk Officer of Ministry Foreign Affairs, Finland Mr Sebastian

The following alumni gave brief presentations on their businesses.

- Mr. Bijay Baniya, CEO/Founder Sparkwork Software Oy
- Mr. Bijendra Neupane, Cleantech Entrepreneur
- Mr. Santosh Mehta, CEO Founder Mehta Heino Industries Oy

The group was given the following community updates:

- ‘Doing Business in Finland’ a workshop happening in Kathmandu on 28th March.
- Nepal Road Show in different cities of Finland happening in the coming months led by Finnish Ambassador to Nepal, Jorma Suvanto. Interested individuals should contact group Admins.

The gathering was concluded with a decision of the was action point that the next meetup will have ICT professionals Networking theme.

- Participation in doing Business with Finland

A very fruitful meetup of Nepal Finland Alumni Association with Finnish and Nepali authorities was held in Chamber Building, Kantipath, Kathmandu on 27-28 March 2017. NFAA representatives Mr. Saurav Dhungana, Mr. Rajesh Rai, Mr. Udeep Shakya and Mr. Arjun Aryal and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland Mr. Jorma Suvanto, Mr. Sebastian Gahnström participated in the meetup. Members of the Nepal-Finland Alumni Association (NFAA) discussed with the Ambassador of Finland, Siv from Finnpartnership, Sebastian from Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Chudamani Joshi from Embassy of Finland and Kailash Bajimaya from Nepal Chamber of Commerce.

- Meeting with the NFAA

NRNA representative Basanta Gautam and NFAA representatives Saurav Dhungana, Rajesh Rai, Sita Rai, Pawan Poudel held a meeting in Royal Saino, Durbar Marga on 1 May 2017.

The discussion mainly focused on how to create small jobs and businesses in Nepal. They discussed about forming an investment company involving alumni in Nepal and in Finland. The potential business areas were identified as poultry farming, vegetable farming, export of NTFPs/handicrafts to Finland/Europe. Other professional business opportunity e.g. in the IT and energy sector were also discussed.

The meeting concluded with the next action point to continue discussion and explore more about other potential business/investment areas.



## 8. Activity Plans for 2017- 2018

1. Nordic Bhela: organizing 3rd Nordic Bhela between June-August 2017
2. Haate Maalo network: Organizing open floor networking event time to time from this network
3. Tourism Promotion Program: Participating in different program for Nepalese culture and tourism and Organizing one big Tourism Promotion event in cooperation with Nepal Tourism Board
4. Quiz Contest - in September/October
5. Cooperation with Foreign Ministry of Finland
6. Work with other associations/Institutions: Try to involve with KEPA and MOFA
7. Running Nepali language/Literature school - September to December 2017
8. New year Celebration – in April 2017
9. One tenure one charity program: in whole tenure
10. Sports Activity – in June – July 2017/2018
11. Run For Nepal - August 2017/2018
12. Literature Program – February 2017
13. Program focusing in second generation of NRNA: for example talent show in December – January 2018

## 9. Conclusion

Within a short period of time, the newly elected board of NRNA Finland has become successful in

conducting various activities among NRNs in Finland to achieve its objectives. NRNA Finland has extensively widen its area and scope of work to coordinating with various stakeholder. The board seeks continuity of active supports from its members and other Nepalese organisations to organize similar events and conduct charity tasks in Nepal in the future.

## Appendix 1

### Board Members

