

NAKA, the North American Konkani Association Update



Dear Fellow Konkanis,

Here's the quarterly update on NAKA for this quarter:

The Interim NAKA team met its goal of making NAKA a viable organization in North America. The team consisted of:

President: **Sheila Shenoy Reddy**,
Vice President: **Sadanand Mankikar**,
Secretary: **Vasanth Bhat**,
Treasurer: **Suresh Shenoy**
Executive Board Member: **Ranjit Shiralkar**.

The much anticipated NAKA website (www.myNAKA.org) is up and running. Please visit the website and send your comments about the website or any other activity about NAKA. Again, thanks for all your support!

Path forward:

The interim NAKA Board had set following goals and ALL have been met. They are:

1. Hold the Konkani Sannelan in 2016 (KS-2016) with KAOG as hosts. **DONE** with overwhelming success!
2. Hold fund raising events across North America to benefit the KS-2016. **DONE**. The extreme fund raising with everyone's help turned the sannelan deficit into a surplus!
3. Hold an election for NAKA so that NAKA truly represents the North American Konkani community. **DONE**. With the help of three volunteers, Dr. Gopal Bhandarkar, Dr. Rajarama Shenoy and Vivek Kulkarni, an election was held and the following were elected unanimously and take over the reins of NAKA on January 1, 2017:

President: **Ramesh Kamath, Cupertino, CA**
Vice President: **Ajay Rao, Toronto, ON**
Secretary: **Sudha Shenoy, Johns Creek, GA**
Treasurer: **Damodar Baliga, Brooklyn, NY**
Executive Board Member: **Pramod Mavinkurve, Princeton, NJ**

The Interim Board while handing over NAKA to the incoming Board wishes to thank all the past Board Directors and the entire North American Konkani Community for their confidence and whole hearted support and cooperation throughout their term. It also congratulates the duly elected incoming Board and wishes them all the very best.

All the financial dealing of NAKA have been transparent and here's the statement for this quarter:

NAKA - Statement Of Accounts

Date	Description	Credit, \$	Debit, \$
8/31/16	Balance from last report	80,747.92	
	Interest for the quarter	8.50	
	Received from Youth Convention-2011	1,368.04	
11/30/16	Final Balance:	82,119.46	

This Financial Statement does not include the final financial outcome of the 2016 Konkani Sannelan held in July in Atlanta.

Signed: **Damodar Baliga/Suresh Shenoy**, Treasurer, NAKA

Dev Baren Karo.

Sheila Shenoy Reddy
President, North American Konkani Association northamericakonkaniassociation@gmail.com

Meet the new NAKA Board

RAMESH KAMATH

President

Ramesh was born in Katapadi, Karnataka state in India. He came to the US to pursue his Master's degree and upon completion, he then moved to California and has been living in the Bay area for 30 years. He is an active member of the Konkani Association of California (KAOCA) and is involved in many NPO organizations in the Bay area. Currently working at Dell Sonic WALL in Santa Clara. He lives with his wife Abirami, and daughters, Nivya and Tanvi.

AJAY RAO

Vice President

Ajay was the President of Ontario Konkani Association (OKA) with his wife Chitra in 2014-15, having previously served as Treasurer/Secretary and VP. Under their leadership, the Association made significant progress in moving with the times - successfully blending the old with the new. They ensured that entertainment was supplemented with cultural content, in the well-attended programs put up by the Executive Committee. The highlight of their term was the transformation of the newsletter, the eSamachar, to a content rich glossy magazine, which was much appreciated by the readership.

Ajay is a CFO with a North American group headquartered in Canada. Chitra is a microbiologist, son Amol is an Environmental Engineer, and daughter Dipti is also a CA. Ajay was on the Board of the Toronto Chapter of Indian CAs, and is an active member of Finance Executives International (FEI).

The Raos lived in Mauritius and South Africa (after leaving India in the late 80s) before migrating to Canada in the early 2000s.

Ajay is passionate about change management, governance, and providing thought leadership in a transparent and collaborative manner. He is committed to doing his bit for the community by leveraging his skills and competencies.

DAMODAR BALIGA

Treasurer

Damodar Baliga came to the US in 1970, together with his wife Shobha and settled down in Queens, NY. He is a Chartered Accountant from India and did his MBA in accounting and finance. He is a founding member of Konkani Sabha and assisted in organizing the first Konkani sammelan in 1996. He is one of the founders of NAKA and was instrumental in getting IRS approval for NAKA as a not-for-profit cultural organization.

Since retiring from a full time job, Damo now serves as the Chairman of the Board for HealthCare Choices NY, a not-for-profit organization with three medical centers in Brooklyn & Queens.

SUDHA SHENOY

Secretary

Sudha and her husband Suresh Shenoy are current residents of Johns Creek, GA. Sudha is a health actuary by profession and is currently employed as VP and consulting actuary for a major health organization in the US. She has been active member of the Konkani Association of Georgia (KAOG) and was in 2016 sammelan Executive and Entertainment committees.

PRAMOD MAVINKURVE

Executive Board Member

Pramod is a retired professional from Johnson & Johnson. He currently lives in Langhorne, PA and spends time with social and community work, hiking, traveling and Konkani social work. He is the secretary of the Chitrapur Heritage Foundation (CHF) and actively coordinates monthly CHF satsangs. He is also involved with supporting the Srivali High School and regularly campaigns and supports student programming.