



# WAVU NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIJI PORTS CORPORATION LIMITED

## Communication keeps close connections



FPCL CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena (right) and FPCL staff kept stakeholders continuously updated.

Fiji Ports Corporation Limited (FPCL) has continued to play its essential role while adapting to the current unusual circumstances presented by COVID-19. Key to this has been the close connections FPCL has maintained with its staff and the wider community through regular and informative communication.

Regular meetings have taken place with stakeholders, Government officials and FPCL staff, to ensure that no one was at risk. COVID-19 Awareness workshops for

staff and stakeholders were facilitated by the Ministry of Health & Medical Services, (MOHMS). FPCL put more stringent physical safety and hygiene measures in place, following the on-going advice from MOHMS.

FPCL has continuously reinforced and updated awareness for the benefit of staff, stakeholders and the community. Awareness boards were placed within the vicinity of entrances and exits to FPCL port facilities, and staff awareness was targeted via email and the updated e-portal.

COVID-19 not only poses a threat to physical health and safety. It has kept some workers working from home. Cruise liners ceased operations to adhere to safety precautions. Cargo vessels still berth to off-load and load cargo, but Government has disallowed shore leave for seafarers.

Through all this, FPCL has adapted to meet the challenge, and will continue to keep channels of communication open and support every effort to keep Fiji free from COVID-19.

## King tide at Kings Wharf



The King tide that followed Cyclone Harold.

In early April, just as Tropical Cyclone Harold departed, in came a king tide that washed over the pavement at Kings

Wharf Suva and the Mua-i-Walu II jetty. Close inspections of FPCL's facilities revealed that no damage was caused

by these extreme weather and tidal events.

According to the Center for Climate and Energy

Solutions, the increased intensity and frequency of extreme weather events is "the visible consequence" of a warming world. Bigger cyclones, with stronger winds and greater rainfall, have been attributed to increasing sea surface temperatures.

Like all Fijians, FPCL Management and staff understand the damage and loss that cyclones can cause. As such, the Company is committed to the reduction of Green House Gas emissions, with respect to electricity use, and in 2019 launched the FPCL 2019-2023 Green Port Masterplan Timeline and Sustainability Guidelines for Procurement.

# Farewell Captain Peni

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the untimely demise of Captain Penitiko Yauvoli, who was laid to eternal rest, 9th May.

Captain Peni, as he was respectfully called, served in the Maritime industry for more than 30 years.

His career with Fiji Ports Corporation Limited included tenure as the Assistant Harbour Master, Suva, before transferring to Lautoka, first as Acting Harbour Master, but soon after, taking up the permanent position as Harbour Master Lautoka.

During his time with FPCL, Captain Peni mentored many other Pilots and guided thousands of vessels into safe harbours. He will be greatly missed by his friends and colleagues in the international Maritime community.

A safe and peaceful voyage to your final resting place, Captain Peni.



*Captain Penitiko Yauvoli.*

## Clean surroundings combat LTDD



*A clean environment helps to combat diseases.*



*Joining hands with others to clean around Walu Bay.*



*Teamwork!*

In response to the announcement by Fiji's Prime Minister, Hon. Frank Bainimarama, regarding infectious diseases such as Leptospirosis, Typhoid, Dengue and Diarrhoea (LTDD), a cohort of 10 FPCL staff joined in a clean up operation in and around the Walu Bay area, organised by the Mau-i-Walu Community Police Post.

While FPCL operational requirements limited the number of Company participants, the clean up campaign was well attended, with other business houses and organisations also joining hands to help combat the spread of infectious diseases by keeping the environment clean and garbage-free.

## CEO briefs FSHIL staff

360-degree communication between FPCL Management and staff is highly valued, as it creates the opportunity and the platform for open and healthy, two-way conversations, in which staff can have their questions answered and concerns addressed.

In this regard, in May, FPCL CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena, met with the staff of Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries (FSHIL) to brief them on future prospects and potential projects.

The FSHIL staff then hosted Mr Piyasena to an afternoon tea, where informal discussions also took place.

FSHIL has retained its staff, but has changed its rostering system to accommodate the changed working conditions during COVID-19.

Staff that wish to take up positions with other organisations are strongly advised to follow proper HR exit procedures should they wish to leave the company for better employment opportunities.



FPCL CEO, Mr Vajira Piyasena, briefing FSHIL staff on future prospects.



Health checks at Head Office.

The Ministry of Health & Medical Services (MOHMS) conducted awareness workshops and health checks for FPCL staff.

This was additional to the precautions put in place by FPCL for the benefit of staff that included the provision of hand sanitisers, hand gloves, full body Personal Protective Equipment and face masks.

Staff were also trained in the correct use and safe disposal of used equipment.

## Fire Drill at Head Office



FPCL staff at the assembly point.

On 21st July, a Fire Drill was conducted at the FPCL Head Office in Walu Bay. Staff responded quickly and congregated safely at the passenger terminal outside Mua-i-Walu wharf, the designated assembly area.

Regular, unannounced fire drills are part of the responsibilities performed by the FPCL Fire Wardens, who undergo six-monthly training/refresher sessions facilitated by National Fire Authority (NFA) officers.

Fire Warden training includes how to fight different types of fires, how to conduct an evacuation, knowledge of emergency facilities and equipment, and risk management.



Fire Wardens prepared for duties.

# Mothers' Day celebrated



*Happy FPCL mothers celebrate.*

Mothers working at FPCL Head Office were delighted to be acknowledged with a special cake to celebrate all that they do at home and at work.



*FPCL staff responded to the SPCA appeal on Face Book. (Photo courtesy of SPCA).*

## Staff assist SPCA

Puppies and kittens at the SPCA had fresh bedding and clean litter trays, thanks to the donation of newspapers made by FPCL staff. As many of the staff are pet owners and animal lovers, they were happy to assist animals in need in response to the SPCA Facebook appeal for help.



*Delivering newspapers to SPCA.*

## FSHIL rehab works under way



*Rehab work at FSHIL.*

The 2020 Capital Works project planned for Fiji Ships & Heavy Industries (FSHIL) is well underway.

The full rehabilitation of the 500 tonne slipway and cradle is taking place so that FSHIL will be operational when regional and international vessels are able to return to use FSHIL's services.



*Getting ready for action.*