# **Quality Education Nepal Incorporated**

Registration no. A0054301J ABN: 79 892 132 355 29 Blue Mount Road, Trentham, Victoria 3458

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

to be held on Zoom at 4:00pm Melbourne time on November 27 2022

## AGENDA

1. Welcome to Country

We begin our meeting by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land wherever we may be for our meeting today, paying our respects to their Elders past and present. For most that is in our home country Australia. For Ronda and Peter it is Nepal where they are guests in the office of LEARN, located in Krishna's home in Kathmandu.

- 2. Attendance
- 3. Apologies
- 4. Adoption of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28th November 2021
- 5. President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
   Financial reports for the year to 30 June 2021 will be presented at the meeting, and will
   subsequently be posted to the QEN website.
   The meeting will be asked to receive, consider and adopt financial statements for the
   year ended 30 June 2022
- 7. Election of Directors (minimum 3, maximum 12). Nominations will be received prior to the meeting or verbally at the meeting. All current Directors offer themselves for reelection. The Board appoints Directors to their respective roles.
- 8. Any other matter which may be lawfully brought forward.

## Minutes of the Twelfth Annual General Meeting of Quality Education Nepal Incorporated (formerly Nepali Village Initiatives Association Inc.) held at 4:00pm, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 29 Blue Mount Road, Trentham, Victoria

## Membership at date of meeting (donors of \$20+ this calendar year):

Individuals and families:

Win Callister; Simon Cowen; Michael Dillon, Hans Eisen; John and Helen Findlay; Russell Fisher; Peter and Wendy Fishley; Peter and Ronda Hall; George Hillary; Richard and Angela Kirsner; David and Margot Kotzman, Ralph and Bev Lewis; Robert Moran, Harshal Nandurkar; Gordon and Maggie Nightingale; Chris Roe and Heather Mitchell; <u>Clubs and associations</u>

Rotary clubs of Portland and Portland Bay

Total:24, contributing \$18.165.

Present in person: Simon Cowen, Michael Dillon; Peter Hall; Ronda Hall

Present on Zoom: Hans Eisen, John and Helen Findlay; George Hillary, Gordon Nightingale,

#### Apologies from members:

Peter & Wendy Fishley; David & Margot Kotzman Chris Roe and Heather Mitchell

#### Apologies from non-members:

David McIntyre; Heather Mitchell, Julie Sloan; Chris Roe, Virginia Turner

- **Quorum:** There being more than the minimum of 3 members present in person or by proxy a quorum was declared.
- Adoption of Minutes: Minutes of the Eighth Annual General Meeting held on 29<sup>h</sup> November 2020 were adopted unanimously (moved Simon, seconded Michael)
- **President's Report:** The President's report was accepted (moved Simon; seconded Michael)
- **Treasurer's Report:** Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 were received and accepted, subject to any adjustments that might be made as a consequence of professional accounting review. (moved Simon; seconded Michael)

## Appointment of an auditor:

Having annual revenue of less that \$250,000 the Association is not required by Consumer Affairs Victoria nor by the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission to have its accounts audited. Rather than appointing an auditor it was agreed that the Board should arrange for the accounts to be reviewed by a Certified Practicing Accountant. Moved Simon; Seconded Michael

**Election of Directors**: Simon Cowen; Michael Dillon, Peter Hall; Ronda Hall; George Hillary and Gordon Nightingale were re-elected as Directors (moved John, seconded Hans).

**Other matters:** No other matters were brought to the meeting which closed at.4:20 pm.

## President's Report for Quality Education Nepal Inc. (QEN) for 2021-2

### Service delivery

In my report for 2020-21 I noted that no training courses could be delivered during the 20-21 financial year due to the pandemic. I am pleased to report that training courses resumed in October 2021. Since then our NGO LEARN has delivered eight courses ranging from basic training to specialized IT courses.

Contributions to funding were received for two of these courses from the Rural Municipality of Rakhugunga, The remaining funding was all provided by QEN.

#### **Staff changes**

Apart from the above, the most significant development during the year came in the resignations, for various personal reasons, of LEARN's three staff – Meen Shahi as Program Director; Ghopal Dhungel as Chief Training Officer; and Urmila Shreesh as Finance and Administration Officer. I wish to thank them sincerely for their valuable service and wish them well for the future.

The three have since replaced by Khadga Kumar Shrestha, Toya Prasad Ammai and Manista Serpuja Pun respectively. We welcome them to our operations. Khadga and Toya, like Meen before them, have previously worked for REED Nepal, the training NGO for the Australian Himalayan Foundation.

## Funding

QEN continues to receive generous contributions from donors, every \$ of which is most welcome.

Beyond this our major source of income is now our capital fund which stood at \$1.8 m. at the end of the financial year. We acknowledge Hewison Private Wealth for the services they provide in managing these funds. They have exceeded targets for both income and capital growth.

Negotiations have been proceeding, not just with Rakhugunga Municipality but also those of Annapurna and Dhaulagiri, with a view to future cost sharing. This will allow programs to be extended so that the funds that QEN is able to contribute will be spread over a greater number of teachers, and the benefits thus to reach a greater number of students.

#### Thanks

I wish to thank Simon Cowen, Michael Dillon, Ronda Hall, Gordon Nightingale and George Hillary as directors of QEN. The latter in particular for his support for our cause since he joined our Board in 2015, while at the same time having active roles with the Australian Himalayan Foundation and the New Zealand Himalayan Trust. George retired from the Board on 4 June 2022, having found it necessary to curtail his philanthropic activities to cope with other life demands (including recent marriage for which we wish him well).

Finally, my strongest thanks go to Krishna Pun, CEO of LEARN. Without his vision and constant drive, we would have achieved nothing.

A John Co

Peter Hall, President 26 November 2021