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## Australia India Society of

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## President's Message

It is an honour to be elected as President of AUSTRALIA INDIA SOCIETY OF VICTORIA (AISV). I came to Melbourne in 1982 as a then seventeen-year-old and in my first job I found myself catering at an AISV event. Not in my wildest imagination, I would have dreamt that one day I will be asked to lead this organization.

The current political, demographic and social climate of this great country is changing dramatically, that brings new challenges and new sets of issues that we, as a community, need to address. We have a demographic of Indians who have lived here for over 50 years. Then we have the second wave that came here in the eighties and the current younger generation that moved here in the last 10 to 15 years. Not to forget the current students who want to call Australia home. The level of challenges faced by each of these groups is unique and different. We need to be able to help each of these groups in meeting these challenges. I have a family and have had extensive experience running a small business. I have had dealings with Local, State and Federal government agencies over the years. All of this, I feel, gives me the perspective to relate to all these demographics.

The AISV has a great history and track record. As I have said earlier "I have big shoes to fill". The outgoing president and the founding members of the AISV have given us a great foundation to build on. I am confident that with the support of my Vice President, Secretary, treasurer and committee members, I can rekindle this brand of AISV to help support our community. I am counting on the support of all well-wishers in the community, not just the committee.

I had the privilege of being invited to Canberra for the budget night dinner at Parliament House and was honoured to represent the AISV. The



Karan Gandhok, President AISV

federal budget is trying to give a stimulus to small business and wage earners. In the current economic times, we need very sound fiscal management. I hope Morrison Government to manage our fiscal policy wisely. Speaking of policy the foreign policy in terms of free trade agreements needs to be kept on track to benefit Australian Business. We need to have a broader interaction with the Australian community. AISV is a society not just for people of Indian origin but a society for all Indophiles. It is in this spirit that we have brought in Ms Santi Whiteside into our committee. She is vice president of the Indonesian Association and brings a lot of experience plus energy to our committee. We will always be on the lookout to bring in new talent to our organization.

It is my pleasure to serve my community, and I am grateful for this opportunity.

Karan Gandhok, President.

## Inside this newsletter

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There is an old Chinese proverb that says “May you live in Interesting times.” This proverb could not be truer of our current times. Here we are fresh from elections back in India and right here in Australia. The BJP has had a massive return to power as predicted by the pundits before the Indian elections. Here in Australia, the pollsters got it all wrong, as our Prime minister said a Miracle happened and the Liberal coalition returned to power with a majority!

The sabre rattling is happening in the Middle East, which can disrupt the oil supply of the world. The technology and trade war between China and America is also heating up. We have a cooling off of our property market in Australia to throw into the mix as well.

Don't want to sound like a doomsday evangelist but I am just stating the facts. The good news is that we now have a strong and stable Governments that can make firm decisions. Unlike the current standoff in Indonesia, both India and Australia have now got a stable political environment.

The stock market and the property market are showing signs of recovery. As I have said earlier, we in Australia need to get involved much more in the political process as the decisions of our political leaders will affect our kids future and affect our retirement. We finally have an Indian surname Sharma in Federal parliament, and I am confident we will see few more up there in the next election in three years.

Congratulations to the winners and encouragement to the ones who did not win this time. You are all an integral part of the democratic system. Majority wins, and we all need to respect that.

**Karan Gandhok, President**



**Incoming President Karan Gandhok with Chairman Dr. Gurdip Aurora during AGM**



**Sunil, Gurdip, Mayuri, Karan, Santi, Anmol & Manjit . The newly elected AISV Team for 2019.**

### **Disclaimer**

Australia India Society of Victoria Inc. (AISV) disclaim all and any liability to any person in respect of anything and of the consequences of anything done or omitted to be done by such a person, in reliance whole or partial, upon this newsletter or any part of the content of this newsletter.



AISV President Karen during Budget Night Dinner at Parliament House, Canberra with  
 (L) The Hon [Alan Tudge](#) MP, Minister for Cities, Urban Infrastructure and Population & Hon. [Peter Dutton](#) MP, Minister for Home Affairs  
 (R) Senator the Hon [Michaelia Cash](#), Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business



Top: Karen and Mayuri represented AISV at community consultation by [IBAC](#) (Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission)

Left: Anmol & Santi at Satay Festival, Melbourne

Bottom: Santi, Mayuri & Anmol having fun after AISV committee Meeting





# Australia India Society of Victoria Inc.

ABN 47 351 032 576 / Incorporated 1985 - A0004545G

## Annual Membership - New/Renewal Application Form

**Select: New Application / Renewal**

Title/s .....

First Name.....Surname.....

Partner/Spouse's First Name.....Surname.....

### Children's names

1.....

2.....

3.....

### Address

.....

City .....Post Code .....

Tel (B/H) .....Tel: (A/H) .....

Mobile: .....

Email: .....

Other Details: (Hobbies, Interests)

.....

Would you be interested to join the committee of AISV Yes ..... No.....

**Membership Category (Circle one) Life: \$500, Family: \$80, Concession: \$50, Single: \$50**

Cheque Payable to Australia India Society of VIC Inc. or Online transfer : BSB 083-414 Account number 69-047-1204

Do you want a receipt : Yes/ No

I hereby apply/renew membership of AISV in the above category. I am aware of the rules and regulations of the society.

Signature / Date / Place

Membership Application to be emailed to: [Membership@aisv.org.au](mailto:Membership@aisv.org.au)

Australia India Society of Victoria is an integrated non-sectarian, Indian Association in Victoria. It represents Indians and Australians from many parts of the world. AISV membership is open to anyone who is interested in India, her culture and her people. The aims of AISV are to promote cultural and social events in context of India, safeguard interests of its members and to act as representatives for the Indian community in Victoria at various Federal, State and Local governmental levels.