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## **Federation of Indian Associations of ACT (FINACT) Inc.**

ABN: 53 196 059 175

[www.finact.net.au](http://www.finact.net.au)

### **Third Annual General Meeting - 13 July 2014**

#### **President's Report**

I feel honoured, as President of the Federation of Indian Associations of ACT (FINACT), to present this annual report to the General Council at its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting.

I was elevated to the position of President from being the Vice President of this prestigious Federation of Associations, at a time which I must admit, was quite tempestuous and confounding, not only for the executive committee but for all the cohorts of FINACT.

I as the President of FINACT was exposed to few challenges particularly in the area of holding the community together and reiteration of its objectives which were 'To present a unified front for all its member associations and promote the advancement of people of Indian origin'.

After the current executive committee took over, we organised a stakeholder engagement meeting to understand the expectations and reprioritised the activities of FINACT. This was followed by **Community Harmony Day BBQ** which was graced with the presence of many community and political leaders, including local MLAs, MPs, and the Minister for Multicultural Affairs for ACT.

Since its inception, the Executive Committee worked tirelessly towards achieving the aims and objectives of FINACT. I am proud of the accomplishments of our committee which are stated but not limited to those mentioned ahead:



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- **Stakeholder Engagement** – EC has met several key stakeholders individually including the Indian High Commissioner, MPs, Senators, ACT Ministers, MLAs and top officials of Multicultural Affairs of ACT.
- **Successful Completion of FINACT T-20 Cricket Tournament** – An enormous interest was observed for FINACT website during the tournament which is evident from the number of visitors to the FINACT website. The number of hits on the website / Facebook page was over 2800 per week which is recorded as all-time high in FINACT's history.
- **Global Cricket Challenge Day** – FINACT partnered and participated with ACT Cricket in running the activities of Global Cricket Challenge Day and left an impression as a principle promoter of the sport within the Indian community.
- **Akram-Tendulkar Shield** – FINACT resolved the issues related to the paternity of Akram-Tendulkar Shield in a harmonious manner and organised it in a bigger way.
- **Sister City Proposal** – Initiated the dialogue with ACT Government on Chandigarh-Canberra Sister City proposal after consultations with Indian community leaders.
- **Engagement of Students and Youth** – FINACT has supported EKTA event to invite new students. The event was held in February 2014 to build the linkages between ACT Government and students.



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- **Enhanced acceptability among Associations** – A number of dissociated associations came back to the fold of FINACT and expressed their confidence and endorsed the hard work and accomplishments of FINACT. A couple of new associations also joined the Federation.
- **Planning and support towards settlement of new migrants** – FINACT Executive Committee held meetings with Departments of Immigration & Social Services to chalk out a strategy to help with the settlement of new immigrants.

Finally I thank all the distinguished delegates and their respectable Indian associations for giving me the opportunity and accepting my humble services as President of FINACT last year.

I wish all the very best for upcoming Executive Committee and I am sure they will continue to maintain and uphold the legacy and prestige of our Federation of Indian Associations of ACT.

President: Amardeep Singh,

Date: 13 July 2014