



Project
Management
Institute.
Southern Caribbean

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

A large, circular graphic with a silver, metallic-looking border is centered on the page. Inside the circle, the number '25' is written in a large, bold, silver, glittery font. Below the '25', the word 'YEARS' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The background of the circle is a dark purple color with a subtle, repeating pattern of the letters 'PMI' in a lighter shade.

25
YEARS

ANNIVERSARY EDITION

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IN THIS ISSUE

Page 03

Founder's Message

Page 04

President's Message

Page 05

Snapshot of Time

Page 07

A Legacy of Service

Page 08

Membership Recognition

Page 09

Evolution of the Volunteer Office

Page 10

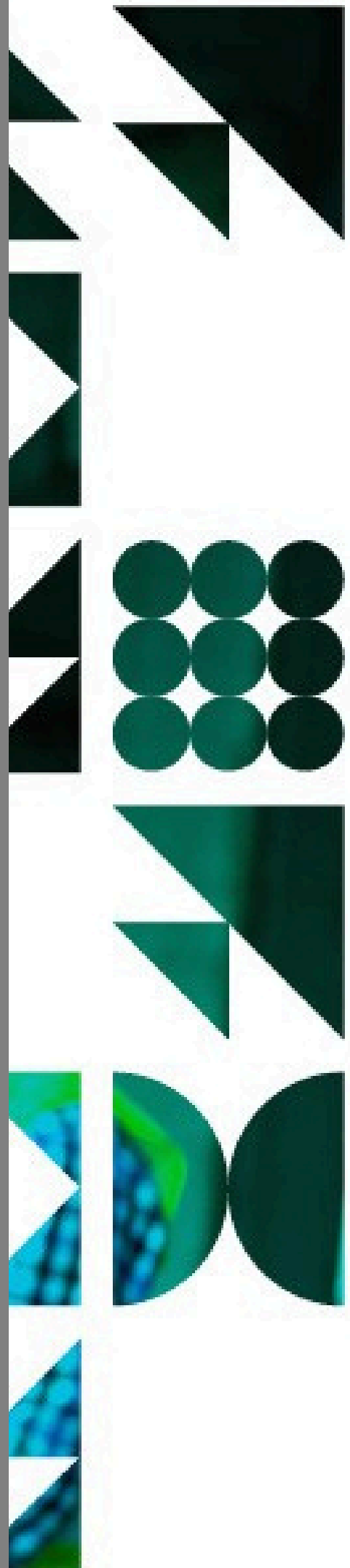
Strategic Partners

Page 11

Chapter Elections 2024

Page 12

2024 Year In Review





A Founding Member's Message Mr. Narayan Ramtahal

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the PMI Southern Caribbean Chapter (PMISCC), I am filled with pride and gratitude for

our journey and the impact of project management in our region.

The chapter's inception in 1974 was fueled by the vision of Haseeb Ali and a dedicated founding team, including Lennard Gomes, Suzanne Hydal, and Mike Charles. Our aim was to elevate project management as a formal profession across Trinidad and Tobago and the Southern Caribbean.

Establishing the PMISCC was challenging, from promoting project management to building a solid membership base. Support from Petrotrin was invaluable, enabling us to organize outreach events that increased our visibility and attracted new members.

As President from 2003 to 2005, I led the chapter through significant milestones, including our inaugural International Project Management Conference in 2005, which attracted 174 attendees and showcased our commitment to advancing project management practices in the Caribbean. We also cultivated our membership by becoming a Global Registered Education Provider, offering Project Management Professional (PMP) exams and workshops, which grew our membership from 125 to over 200.

Looking ahead, I envision PMISCC playing an essential role in national development, bringing our expertise to address challenges in project governance and execution. I am proud to have contributed to building a foundation for our success, and I hope to inspire the next generation of project managers as we continue to elevate our profession.

As PMISCC embarks on its next 25 years, I am excited to see its evolution and leadership in project management. Together, let us keep building on this legacy.

President's Message

Janelle Kowlessar

As we wrap up and reflect on the incredible year marking our 25th anniversary, I could not be more grateful to be part of this amazing community whose dedication and passion have carried our Chapter to where it is today.



2024 was truly a remarkable year for us. We made meaningful strides to better serve you, our members—through volunteer-driven initiatives, networking events that sparked new connections and strengthened existing ones, and professional development opportunities that expanded our expertise to help us stay ahead of the curve.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the tireless support of our volunteers, including our Board of Directors. To all of you—thank you for lending your time, talent, and enthusiasm at every turn. You are the cornerstone of the Chapter's success.

As we look ahead to 2025, I'm excited about the possibilities that lie before us. Let's keep building, innovating, and supporting each other in reaching new heights in this ever-evolving profession.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful new year filled with endless opportunities, inspiration, and success.

Snapshot of Time: Quick Facts on PMISCC's History

1999

Haseeb Ali (first PMISCC president) introduced the idea of starting a PMI Chapter in Trinidad & Tobago. Haseeb invited a group of consultants to work on starting the chapter.

After collaboration with PMI, the chapter was born encompassing the entire Southern Caribbean territories.



2001

The Chapter's first conference was held on September 11th, at the Hilton Hotel.

Attendees recall seeing the breaking news of the tragic 9/11 event. Despite this, the conference went on and successfully marked PMISCC's first conference.



Snapshot of Time: Quick Facts on PMISCC's History

2006

In 2006, president Michael Charles recognized the importance of expanding the chapter's presence in other southern Caribbean territories.

He visited several islands and successfully organized a conference in Guyana, which greatly contributed to the chapter's growth.



2016

The 2016 PMI Region 14 conference in Magdalena, Tobago marked a significant achievement, as it was the first time the event was hosted outside the continental United States.

Past President Harricharan Maharaj played a crucial role in making this happen.





A Legacy of Service:

Honoring the Volunteers of the PMI Southern Caribbean Chapter

Twenty-five years ago, the PMI Southern Caribbean Chapter was formed with a vision to elevate project management and foster professional growth across the region. As we commemorate Volunteer Day 2024, we honor the heart of our Chapter—our volunteers. The Board of Directors is dedicated to helping our members advance their careers, enabling organizations to transform effectively, and supporting them in reaching critical milestones along their paths. Meanwhile, our Volunteer Programme empowers community-based organizations with essential project management skills and methodologies. Through their efforts, our volunteers enable community groups to create a greater impact, bringing structure and resilience to their initiatives and fostering sustainable growth.

The United Nations theme for International Volunteer Day 2024, “Be The Change You Want to See in the World,” perfectly reflects the spirit of our volunteers. Through their commitment, they bring about meaningful change in every community they touch, embodying the Chapter’s mission to make a difference, one project at a time. Their work inspires positive transformation, creating a ripple effect of knowledge and empowerment that extends far beyond individual projects.

Our journey as a Chapter would not be possible without the unwavering dedication of our volunteers. Their contributions reach far beyond project tasks—they transform lives, build community, and uphold the values that have defined the PMI Southern Caribbean Chapter over the past 25 years. As we look to the future, we celebrate these exceptional individuals who continue to be the foundation of our success and a beacon of hope for our communities.

Thank you, volunteers, for being the change that sustains us.

Anasa London, PMP
VP Special Events and Volunteerism

Long-Standing Membership Recognition

25 Years

Curtis Benjamin
Harricharan Harnarine Maharaj
Michael Charles

23 Years

Christopher Farquhar
Kathy Ann Nicholson
Michael Anderson Daniel
Nigel Aqui
Samuel Alpheus

21 Years

Beny Bhola
Dane Phillip
Gerard Niles
Glynis Alexander-Tam
Marcia Maynard
Mark Hopkins
Ottis Richardson
Parmanand Birju
Shuresh Gangabissoon

24 Years

Carolin Beharry
Krishna Narine
Narayan Ramtahal

22 Years

Averne Pantin
Jean Benjamin
Keith Spencer
Krishna Rampersad

20 Years

Anderson Gordon
Annmarie Dookie
Antonia Popplewell
Cassandra Ramkerrysingh
Hafiz Ali
Hayden Brown
John Lewis
Lisa Rajpaul
Patrick Caesar
Peter Burke
Peter Forde
Pettreena Jewnath
Randolph Jackson
Rattan Boodram
Shaina Smith
Stephen George
Stuart Mahabir



EVOLUTION OF THE VOLUNTEER OFFICE

Almost nine years ago, PMISCC expanded its outreach to include project management awareness training for schools, NGOs, CBOs, and other entities. Our goal was to share principles, tools, and hands-on support to foster critical thinking and solutions-oriented actions toward national development, leading to the establishment of a dedicated Volunteer Office that manages our bi-annual Volunteer Outreach Programme.

What started with the core initiative, “Developing a Framework for Project Management at the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee (TTOC),” has grown remarkably. Today, we lead our flagship initiative, the “Schools Outreach Project,” while also collaborating with the Cropper Foundation and the Girl Guides Association of Trinidad and Tobago, all with a shared mission of fostering project management awareness and advancing community development. Volunteerism is at the heart of PMISCC’s initiatives, and the dedication of our volunteers has been instrumental in building stronger organizations. The early contributions of our volunteers helped shape our outreach vision, design effective programs, and deliver impactful training.

As members of the Volunteer Office progressed to be on the Board of Directors, we recognized the need to



Core Contributors: Keva Doyle, former Volunteer Experience Coordinator; Anasa London, Vice President of Special Events & Volunteerism; and Cassandra Ramkerrysingh, former Vice President of Special Events & Volunteerism.

expand our operations, resulting in the establishment of specialized teams, including an events team and a volunteer performance management team. This expansion has allowed us to impact over 1475 youths, enriching their development and engagement.

Our approach has continually evolved, especially during challenges like COVID-19, when we adapted to e-platforms to ensure continuity. Our internal discussions, vibrant and diverse, were always guided by strategic intent and collective commitment, enriching both our programs and the learning experiences of our team.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved in the Volunteer Outreach Programme, which remains crucial in promoting project management awareness and contributing to national development. Together, we can build a better future through the power of volunteerism.

STRATEGIC PARTNERS



Reflections on the PMISCC Chapter Election 2024

Process: Building on Successes and Insights

The 2024 PMISCC Chapter election was a significant event that provided valuable insights for future improvements. Our objectives were to conduct an efficient election, encourage active member participation, and adhere to our timeline. The Nominations and Elections Committee, comprising dedicated members, played a crucial role in navigating the complex process with adaptability and teamwork.

One early challenge was finalizing the Nomination Committee within our planned timeframe. Despite scheduling conflicts, our team's commitment to collaboration enabled us to maintain election momentum.

To engage members effectively, we utilized email as our primary communication tool, reaching out seven times throughout the election. While this approach yielded a voter turnout of 14%, we recognized the need to expand our outreach to platforms like LinkedIn and WhatsApp to enhance participation in future elections.

Additionally, we learned the importance of timely scheduling and resource readiness. Short delays in the nomination phase emphasized the need for streamlined planning, while our decision to launch voting on weekdays rather than weekends aimed to maximize accessibility.

This election demonstrated our team's resilience and commitment to the PMISCC community. The proactive insights gained will serve as a solid foundation for upcoming elections, and we appreciate the hard work and support from all involved.

Special thanks to the team, including our Chapter Supervisor Jason Harbonic, Nominations Committee Chair Shantal Deonarine, Nomination Committee Members Abdullah Khan and Gail Seegobin. Thanks to Reyanne Paynter-Mendez for assisting with recruitment, and thank you to the members who exercised their rights to vote by participating. We look forward to reaching new heights together!

Warren Sabastien Anderson
VP Strategic Alliances,
Chapter Elections 2024 Board Liaison
PMI Southern Caribbean Chapter

[Click here to read the full article.](#)



Welcome to Los Angeles, California

North America

LIM 2024

19-21 September

Project Management Institute Southern Caribbean

Project Managers as Strategic Leaders

Transforming Our World One Project at a Time



Project Management Institute Southern Caribbean



2024 Year in Review



25th Anniversary Dinner





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