



**Project
Management
Institute.**
Southern Caribbean

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

August 2025

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ELEVATE



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Celebrating Excellence: The PMISCC Rewards & Recognition Programme 2024–2025



At PMISCC, our volunteers are the heartbeat of everything we do. From steering project teams to supporting chapter initiatives behind the scenes, your time, talent, and commitment make a lasting impact on our members and our region. The quiet Spartans!

That's why we're proud to roll out the 2024–2025 Rewards & Recognition Programme (VIP) — a structured, transparent, and meaningful way to honor those who go above and beyond in service to the PMISCC Chapter. We believe in keeping you informed and involved every step of the way.

WHAT'S NEW THIS CYCLE

Given the unique challenges of this cycle, we've made special adjustments to the award criteria — making them more accessible, equitable, and reflective of the different ways you show up and contribute. Awards will be given for:

- Commitment to Purpose & Initiative (Project Team Members)
- Excellence in Leadership (Project Team Leads)
- Project Management Excellence (Project Monitors)
- Above and Beyond (Special Contribution to VO or Directors)
- Growth Champion (Personal Development & Skills Gained)

Celebrating Excellence: The PMISCC Rewards & Recognition Programme 2024–2025

TIMELINE HIGHLIGHTS

- Nominations & Assessment: Ongoing through September
- Final Award Submissions: October 24th
- Award Ceremony: December at the End-of-Year Celebration

WHAT YOU GET

Awardees will receive tokens of appreciation, certificates, and recognition in front of the Chapter community.

This is more than a celebration — it's a commitment to building a culture where effort, initiative, and growth are seen, appreciated, and amplified.

Stay tuned for the official nomination form and announcements on the Volunteer Engagement Platform (VEP), where you can find all the necessary information and updates about the Rewards & Recognition Programme.

Let's recognize the excellence among us. Let's make volunteering visible.



SAVE THE DATE

PMI Chapter Connect: Discover, Engage, Grow

Ever felt like you joined a party but weren't quite sure where the snacks were or who to talk to?

*That's kind of what joining PMI can feel like at first
But don't worry—we've got you covered!*

 **Date:** Tuesday, September 23rd, 2025

 **Time:** 6:30 PM AST

 **Location:** Online (Zoom link shared upon registration)

Why should you attend?

- ✓ **Discover** your membership benefits with insider tips
- ✓ **Engage** with seasoned project managers & industry leaders
- ✓ **Grow** your PM career through volunteering, mentorship, and events
- ✓ **Explore** ways to give back and become part of our vibrant PMISCC community
- ✓ **Get inspired** to elevate your project management journey

Who should attend?

- ✓ New PMI or PMISCC members
- ✓ Curious about PMI & the Chapter? Come as a guest!
- ✓ PM enthusiasts & professionals looking to connect

— Your PMISCC Membership Team

A Milestone Achieved: Celebrating Our Compliance Team's Dedication

The Project Management Institute (PMI) Southern Caribbean Chapter is proud to announce a significant milestone: the successful completion and submission of all outstanding post-incorporation filings with the Companies Registry Department of the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs. This achievement is a direct result of the relentless hard work, determination, and collaboration of our dedicated compliance team lead which is made up of the VP Compliance Mr. Rupert Ramharack and Volunteer Ms. Stacey Clarke.

Indeed navigating the complexities of these filings presented a formidable challenge, and completing this task was a top priority for our chapter. The road was filled with obstacles mainly attributed to implementation of the Companies Registry Online System. It was a painstaking process that demanded not only expertise but also immense patience and persistence.

This accomplishment is more than just checking a box. It solidifies our chapter's commitment to transparency, good governance, and operational excellence. By bringing our records up-to-date, we have strengthened our foundation, enabling us to serve our members more effectively and focus on our core mission of advancing the project management profession in the Southern Caribbean.

This success is a testament to your collective spirit and unwavering commitment to the chapter's well-being. We are truly grateful for the work done by the compliance team and your service and look forward to celebrating many more successes together.





Member Spotlight **Kiona Assing, BSc (Civil** **Engineering), PMP®** **Project Management in Aviation**

I was involved in Project Management long before stepping into aviation – before even imagining the industry would need it. I was unemployed for over a year, coming out of a Project Civil Engineer role. A former colleague, working in airport maintenance, mentioned that the engineering department needed assistance. It had never occurred to me that civil engineering and project management roles existed within the industry. Looking back, I realize how unaware I was of the vast opportunities for our profession.

I had already studied for the PMP® exam but had not yet sat it. I was told that to be considered, certification was essential. That was the push I needed – I sat the exam within the month and started my new role. Still, that opportunity was only a catalyst, not the true motivation. My interest in Project Management started years earlier, when the owner of my first internship company suggested it as a career path. That company provided project management services for large construction projects. At the time, I didn't see the significance of his advice, but over the years, I realized I was involved in numerous projects. I couldn't identify it as such as I was looking at my career through narrow, technical, civil engineering lens. That realization helped shaped my philosophy: project management isn't confined to one sector, it transcends boundaries, which leads me to what I believe is fundamental for budding project managers: The transferable skills we develop – planning, communication, organization – don't just serve us professionally, they enrich our daily lives. When applied consistently, they strengthen both confidence and competence. You strengthen those 'project management muscles' in your everyday life and get to flex them at work. Project Management shouldn't be thought of as belonging to only one industry or sector, it transcends boundaries.

We are so excited for IIL's IPM Day 2025 online event goes live on November 6, 2025. This year's theme is "The Power Trio: Project, Leadership, and Agile," with a focus on the essential skills modern professionals need to succeed.

The incredible line-up of speakers will show you how to master the perfect blend of streamlined project management, game-changing agile strategies, and passionate, people-first leadership. It's the ultimate formula for driving real progress and making a lasting impact. View speakers and topics and register. Use discount code PMISCC to save \$15.

Key Highlights:

- Event Market Price \$89
- Live Day: November 6, 2025 (attendance not required)
- On-Demand Access: Through February 8, 2026
- Earn up to 26 PDUs
- Access 25+ Video Presentations
- Get 2 Free On-Demand Courses: AI Foundation by AICERTs and Business Relationship Management Fundamentals by IIL
- Online Conference Reflection Journal: by Project Management Life and IIL
- A Coaching Toolkit – by Keynote – Tim Andrews
- And much much more!

International Project Management Day 2025

The Power Trio: Project, Leadership, and Agile

Live Day: November 6, 2025
20+ Presenters | Earn up to 26 PDUs



ELEVATE 2025

The Caribbean's Premier Project Management Conference

Mark your calendars for September 11-12, 2025, when the PMI Southern Caribbean Chapter (PMISCC) hosts ELEVATE 2025 at Le Reve, C3 Centre, San Fernando, Trinidad & Tobago. Offered as a hybrid event, this

conference is more than a rebrand of our biennial gathering; it's a bold transformation designed to prepare project managers for today's challenges and tomorrow's opportunities. With the theme "Project Management Now: Shaping the Future with Today's Tools," this is your chance to gain future-ready skills, insights, and connections in an event you simply cannot afford to miss.



ELEVATE 2025 is about rising higher together. When project managers elevate their knowledge and leadership, their teams, organizations, and communities rise with them. For professionals across the Caribbean navigating technological disruption, sustainability demands, and cultural shifts, this conference provides the ideal platform to stay ahead of the curve. Don't miss out on learning from global and regional experts who will share the strategies, tools, and mindsets shaping project success in 2025 and beyond.

The two-day program features an exciting lineup of keynote speakers. On Day 1, Mikey Thackoor, an Operations Leadership Expert with over 30 years

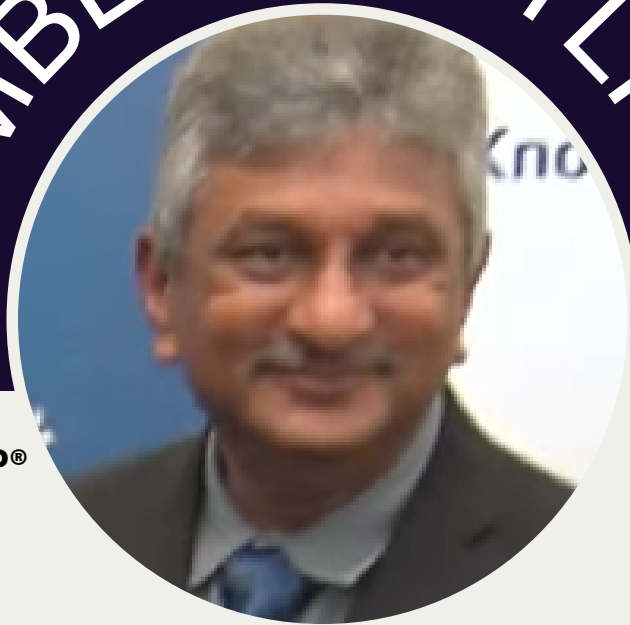
of experience in construction, will deliver hard-earned lessons from his journey from construction laborer to multimillion-dollar project leader. His keynote explores how to build psychological safety, drive performance through diversity, lead with trust, and create purpose-driven cultures that deliver results. Closing the conference on Day 2, Jeff Harry, recognized as a Top 100 HR Influencer, brings his expertise in workplace innovation. Drawing on his work with Google, Amazon, and Facebook, Harry will show how play-based strategies can fuel sustainable execution, prevent burnout, and foster psychological safety all critical for resilient project teams. These sessions alone make ELEVATE 2025 unmissable.

The speaker lineup continues with distinguished thought leaders such as Kathleen Walch (AI in PM), Jacqueline Dennis (International Institute for Learning), Dr. Leon Herszon (Project Complexity), June Veronica James (Mental Health), Ian John (Cybersecurity), and Amir Mohammed (Oil & Gas). Their presentations will cover the most urgent issues facing project managers today, including artificial intelligence, sustainability, cybersecurity, agile and hybrid methodologies, inclusive leadership, and emotional intelligence in stakeholder engagement. Missing out means missing the chance to stay ahead of these trends.

Beyond the keynotes and sessions, ELEVATE 2025 offers a full conference experience: interactive panels with regional leaders, immersive workshops, and networking opportunities designed to spark meaningful, lasting connections. Caribbean cultural elements will add richness and energy to the program, blending global best practices with our unique identity.

Attendance is limited: secure one of the few in-person seats or join virtually from anywhere in the world. Don't delay: registration is now open at pmiscc.org/conference. Group packages and student pricing are also available, making it easier than ever to secure your place. The Caribbean project management community is known for resilience, creativity, and collaboration across cultures. ELEVATE 2025 celebrates these strengths while equipping professionals with the tools and perspectives needed to thrive in an increasingly complex world. Don't miss out on this career-defining opportunity. Innovate. Adapt. Lead. The future of Caribbean project management begins at ELEVATE 2025.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



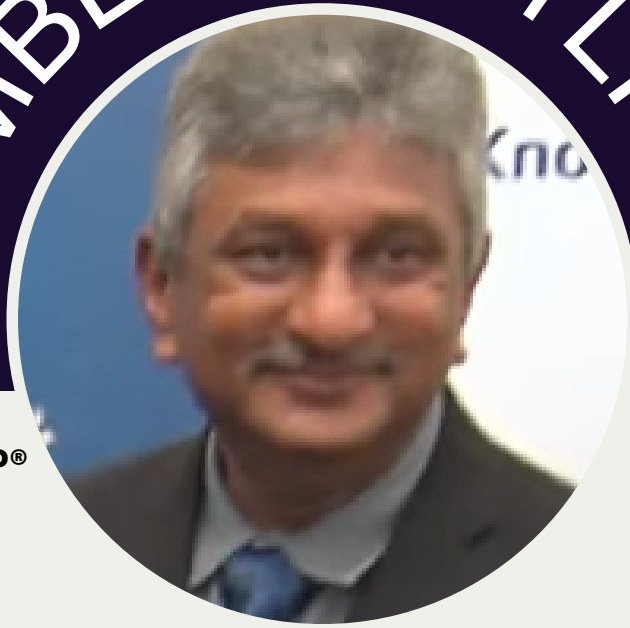
Parmanand Birju, PMP®

22 Years of Dedication

For over two decades, Parmanand Birju has been a dedicated member of PMISCC and a committed professional in the process plant industry. His journey into project management began with a desire to deliver projects more effectively and with greater structure. That motivation led him to pursue further project management qualifications and the PMP® certification, which he describes as a turning point in his career. “The PMP® gave me a framework that I could apply across different types of projects, not just on plant turnarounds,” he reflects.

One highlight of his PMI journey was attending a PMI Global Summit which he expressed gave him the chance to connect with PMs from around the world and reinforced his view that PMISCC is a talented group of PMs amongst their global peers. “The exchange of ideas and best practices, and the opportunity to engage in collaborative discussions was invaluable,” he recalls. For him, PMISCC has been more than a professional association; it has been a community of knowledge, support, and inspiration. He credits his Chapter with making noticeable improvements in its engagement with its members during his membership tenure.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Parmanand Birju, PMP®

22 Years of Dedication

When asked what advice he would share, he is clear: for budding PMs, it is about staying curious, committed to learning, and most importantly, “recognizing the power of soft skills. Being an effective PM is not just about technical skills” he states. “A project manager is only as good as the team s/he develops, builds, motivates, and allows to learn from mistakes (because they will happen); any project’s success is, in large part, based on the performance of the project team.” For experienced practitioners, he encourages adaptability – reminding us that the profession continues to evolve, and so must we.

As PMISCC celebrates his 22 years of membership, his story stands as a testament to the enduring value of project management in building careers, industries, and communities.



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