

# Fiji Rotuman Association

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**To:** All FRA members and the Rotuman community at large

**From:** Paserio Furivai, Chairperson

**Date:** 25 March, 2020

**Subject:** Civil Duties and Responsibilities - Covid 19

**Message:**

Ko Gagaj ma Kainag,

Noa'ia 'e mauri! Fiji now has confirmed its 4<sup>th</sup> Coronavirus Case. We know that this 28 year old male travelled in from Australia and is currently quarantined with his whole family at the Navua Hospital. It is said that his family residence is in the Nasinu area in Suva.

Yesterday, the Ministry of Health made a release of the names and addresses of the people who may have come into contact with the country's first case of COVID-19 and last night more people have come forward. We thank them for this civil responsibility.

The PM of Fiji had warned members of the public to take heed of the measures in place and in particular those in the Lautoka lock down area. I ask that if any of our members know of anyone in the published list of passengers (published on online and in print media) then make them know their civil duty and to contact the relevant authorities immediately. They require observation to ensure that there is minimum or no spread of potential COVID-19 in the community. At the time of this communique, there are still 53 remaining passengers who were on flights 871 – San Francisco to Nadi – on 16th March, 411 – Nadi to Auckland 17th March and FJ 410 – Auckland to Nadi on 17th March as well. These individuals are requested to call 2219906 or email on [fijihealthimt@gmail.com](mailto:fijihealthimt@gmail.com).

I hope that you and your families are safe and taking every precautionary measure you know of to assist one another. Council leaders are to check on your association members and see how you can assist them during this time. Stop all district gatherings and assess the situation as we get updates from the authorities. Encourage the elderly to begin their hanuju sessions with their grandchildren, as schools are on break, if they have not done so. Parents begin or continue the Rotuman Language speaking in the home and reminisce on the good old days of growing up as

young islanders in our beautiful homeland. Families can organise their backyard farming for the days ahead too for some root crops that can be used in the home and shared with other members of the district and church communities. Embrace these moments of family time and appreciate the God-given gift or one another – sing, chant, read poetry and dance the blessings of peace, calm and tranquility that we are presented with each day we wake up. Pray for ourselves and for those suffering from COVID 19 as well as those nurses, doctors and medical assistance and personnel that have continued to stay with the sick and have not gone home since their countries were affected. Remember too the solidarity of the men and women that have left their homes to assist in other cities and countries. Pray for our beloved country and island home that our Creator will look upon us in favour and save us from any adversity that may befall us as we witness what many bigger nations are facing today.

Just one last reminder to you all for now, do note the following numbers that are released for your information too. If you or someone you know is feeling unwell or showing symptoms of COVID-19, do contact the Ministry of Health on:

1. Central – 2219905
2. Eastern – 2219906
3. Western – 2219907
4. Northern - 2219908

This is a time for us to try and stay positive and to reach out to those around us in acts of love, patience and charity. Stay blessed and in prayers!

Alalum!

**Paserio Furivai**  
**25/03/2020**