



17 January 2018



Chairman HFC Bank Board announces the appointment of CEO

Chair of HFC Bank, Mr. Tom Ricketts in announcing the appointment of the Bank's new CEO, Mr. Rakesh Ram, said we are delighted with this appointment. Mr. Ram is an experienced Banker with over 32 years of distinguished service in the Banking industry both locally and internationally. He welcomed Mr. Ram and his spouse, Mrs. Kamlesh Ram to the HFC family.



Mr. Ram was Deputy CEO and Head of Commercial, Corporate and Institutional Banking for the ANZ Banking Group in Fiji. He has also had Regional experience working with diverse cultures and businesses across the Pacific. Rakesh has held positions such as Head of Asset Finance, Pacific Region, Manager Credit Pacific, based in Melbourne Australia, Head of Relationship Banking, ANZ Tonga and Head of Lending, ANZ Samoa.

Rakesh was chosen in a competitive selection process from a strong field of internal and external candidates. During his career he has won several awards Including the ANZ Group Global CEO recognition award and has also been recognised as one of the top 50 group talent across ANZ Asia Pacific, Europe and American Region . Mr. Ram is a past award winner of the Fiji Institute of Bankers Corporate Banker of the Year which speaks volumes of the Corporate Banking experience he has. Reflecting on his appointment , Mr. Ram says "I am honoured and excited to have been selected to lead a winning team in a strong aspiring organisation and I accept with confidence, determination and the ambition to build further on our success and strengthen HFC Bank's growth agenda making Fiji's very

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own Bank **The Bank of Choice for our people**. I am excited about taking HFC Bank to greater heights and delivering to the shareholders a profitable return". With this dynamic team Mr. Ram looks forward to leading HFC Bank to become a highly successful financial institution in the Fiji market contributing to the Banking industry and Fiji's economy.

Mr. Ricketts added that Customer Satisfaction is our focus and we will develop a winning strategy that will enable us to grow in this very competitive market. Being a fully local Bank, 100% of our profits remain in the country for the benefit of our people.

On a final note both Chairman Ricketts and CEO Ram says they are passionate and committed to placing HFC's clients at the absolute center of the business and looks forward with confidence to the future.

Mr. Ricketts also thanked Mr. Raj Sharma - Acting Chief Executive Officer for the nine (9) months he led the Bank and looks forward to working with Raj and the HFC Bank team and all stakeholders in taking HFC Bank to the next level.

Mr. Ram will commence at the Bank on Monday 22nd January 2018.