



Joint Press Release: SICCI, Woodford International & SISBEC

Wednesday 9th May 2018

For immediate release:

Careers Market attract thousands

'Nurturing Career and Entrepreneurship'

Over 2,000 students joined the Careers Market program on Wednesday – an initiative jointly hosted by the Woodford International School (WIS), Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) and Solomon Islands Small Business Enterprise Centre (SISBEC).

Students from 12 schools in Honiara flocked the Woodford school ground and took part in the exhibition of exciting career choices from over 40 companies, organisations and government departments who came out to show their support.

The event carried the theme *Nurturing Career and Entrepreneurship*.

SICCI CEO Dennis Meone applauded the support shown by the business community, adding that the demand to participate was higher than the positive turnout.

Many SICCI business members joined the careers market. Among highlights of events included performance by the Royal SIPF police band and a joint demonstration by the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) Fire Department and St John Ambulance. A number of government departments also came out to show their support.

"Our involvement in the event is driven by our vision to connect students – the future generation to businesses and to provide a space for information sharing in the hope that careers can be shaped and students can have the opportunity to reflect and carefully think about their career goals," said Mr Meone while addressing the event.

"The theme speaks for itself, and I do hope that students would find [Careers Market] activities practical and useful in being able to make a choice or at least make informed views and decisions.



The CEO said he believed the huge turnout is testament of the growth and popularity of the Careers Market.

WIS Head of school, Anthony Baron opened the proceedings and encouraged students to dream big and to make the most of the day - seeking information and ask questions to participating businesses and organizations.

The keynote speaker was the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce (MCIL) Riley Mesepitu who gave an inspiring speech with a personal touch about his journey in life and career path.

The Careers Market 2018 is the second since its establishment last year by SICCI and WIS who is one of many education institute members of SICCI.

"This year we are also privileged to be joined by [SISBEC] in co-hosting the event. There is no better way in getting things done through partnership and I believe the careers market is a classic example of true partnership," said Meone while acknowledging SISBEC in its involvement.

The Careers Market is an annual event initially organised by WIS and SICCI in 2017. With SISBEC onboard the Careers Market is anticipated to return even bigger next year.

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