



## *UNITED INDIAN ASSOCIATIONS Inc.*

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23<sup>rd</sup> February 2009

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### UIA's New Office in Parramatta becomes operational

On 21<sup>st</sup> February 2009 the new office of United Indian Associations located at Suite G5, Connection Arcade, 162-172 Church Street Parramatta NSW 2150 was officially opened by Hon. David Borger M.P., Minister for Housing and Minister for Western Sydney and Hon. Laurie Ferguson M.P., Parliamentary Secretary Ministry of Immigration & Citizenship in the presence of all the constituent association representatives and the executive committee of UIA. Hon. Borger recalled that the idea of UIA office in Parramatta was initiated during the time when he was Lord Mayor of Parramatta City Council and he is happy to see the idea become a reality.

Mr. Raj Natarajan, President of United Indian Associations welcomed the gathering and said that the office is available for use of all associations and migrant groups of Indian origin which have their aims and objectives similar to that of UIA i.e., non-profit, secular, non-religious and non-political. While the member associations of UIA can avail this opportunity free-of-cost, non-members will be able to use the office by paying a nominal fee.

This office will also serve as a single point of contact for people seeking help from UIA. Mr. Raj Natarajan further informed that an application to the Government by UIA for a federally funded community worker to be in attendance at the UIA office during normal working hours is receiving favorable consideration from the Minister of Immigration & Citizenship. In the interim, UIA volunteers will take responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the UIA office. UIA is currently working with the NSW Government to secure a suitable piece of land to have a permanent cultural and resource center for servicing the needs of the ever growing Indian Community.

UIA's India House sub-committee will be responsible for operation and maintenance of the UIA's new office. For further information contact either Mr. Raj Natarajan – 0418 649 904 or Mrs. Aruna Chandrala on 0410 338 900.

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