

## अमेरिकी क्षेत्रको एनआरएनए क्षेत्रीय ज्ञान भेला

अमेरिकी क्षेत्रको लागि एनआरएनए क्षेत्रीय भेला सेप्टेम्बर ५ र ६ को लागि तोकिएको छ। उक्त क्षेत्रीय भेलामा एक दिन ज्ञान भेला सञ्चालन गर्न हालै डाक्टर लक्ष्मी पाठकको संयोजकत्वमा डाक्टर आमोद पोखरेल र वैज्ञानिक नारायण घिमिरे सम्मिलित विज्ञ समूह गठन भएको थियो।

एनआरएनए अमेरिकी क्षेत्रको क्षेत्रीय सम्मेलन मूल आयोजन समिति अन्तर्गत गठित स्वतन्त्र विज्ञको रूपमा काम गर्ने विज्ञ समितिले सम्मेलनको लागि आठ क्षेत्र निर्धारण गरी हरेक क्षेत्रका विषय विज्ञहरूलाई सम्बन्धित विषयको ज्ञान गोष्ठीको सभापति समेत तोकेको छ।

हामीलाई प्राप्त सूचना अनुसार गत सोमबार बेलुकी अमेरिकी क्षेत्रको लागि गठित एनआरएनए विज्ञ समूह वा थिङ्क टैंक ग्रुपको औपचारिक बैठक बस्यो। उक्त औपचारिक बैठकले आयोजित ज्ञान सम्मेलनमा आफ्नो कार्यपत्र प्रस्तुत गर्न चाहने नर्थ अमेरिकी क्षेत्रका (अमेरिका, क्यानडा, मेक्सिको आदि) तेइस मुलुकमा बसोबास गर्ने नेपाली मूलका नेपाली विज्ञ डाएस्पोराहरू बाट अगस्ट २० भित्र आफ्नो कार्यपत्रको सारांश अथवा एब्सट्रयाक्ट तोकिएको ढाँचामा इमेल मार्फत पठाउन भनिएको छ।

एनआरएनएको अमेरिकी विज्ञ समूहले पेस गरिएका कार्यपत्रमा प्रत्येक सत्रमा चार ओटा कार्यपत्र समावेश गर्ने समय उपलब्ध गरिएको बताइन्छ। पेस गरिएको कार्यपत्रहरू सबैलाई अगस्ट २५ भित्र उक्त कार्यपत्र आयोजित सत्रमा प्रस्तुतिको लागि स्वीकृत भएको हो वा नेपाल सरकार र नेपालको योजना आयोगमा प्रस्तुत गर्न तैयारी

गर्न लागिएको कन्फरेन्स डिक्लरेसन र व्हाइट पेपरमा संलग्न गर्नुको लागि छनौटमा परेको हो भन्ने बारे जानकारी गराइने बताईएको छ।

अनलाइन जुमबाट बसेको एनआरएनए अमेरिकी विज्ञ समूहको बैठकले ज्ञान आदान प्रदान गोष्ठी जुम प्रविधि प्रयोग गरि एकै साथ तिन वटा समानान्तर सेसन मार्फत अनलाइनमा गर्ने, जसमा एक कार्यपत्र क्यानडा, एक अमेरिका र एक अमेरिकी क्षेत्र तथा अर्को नेपाल बाट समावेश गर्ने प्राथमिकता दिने नीति लिएको खुलेको छ। जसमा जेन्डर ब्यालेन्सको लागि समेत कोसिस गर्ने नीति राखिएको बुझिन्छ।

एनआरएनए क्षेत्रीय संयोजन समितिले तोकेको विज्ञ समूहको औपचारिक निर्णय अनुसार अनुसार पहिलो सेसन अन्तर्गत कोभिड-१९ र यसले अर्थ तन्त्रमा पर्ने असर शीर्षक अन्तर्गत कानून विद दिल्ली भट्ट, अमेरिका; पब्लिक हेल्थ एन्ड मेडिसिनमा डाक्टर श्याम थापा, अमेरिका; र नलेज एन्ड स्किल इन नर्सिङ प्राक्टिसमा नर्स पार्वती पाण्डे, क्यानडा तोकिएको छ।

दोस्रो समानान्तर सेसनमा इन्जिनियरिङ्ग, पूर्वाधार विकास र सार्वजनिक सुरक्षामा इन्जिनियर केदार श्रेष्ठ, इनर्जी, वातावरण, विज्ञान तथा प्रविधिमा वातावरण पत्रकार सहज मान श्रेष्ठ, अमेरिका; र शिक्षा, सामाजिक सुदृढीकरण र न्यायिक विकासमा डाक्टर हरि गुरुङ, क्यानडाले सेसनको अध्यक्षता गर्नुहुने छ।

तेस्रो समानान्तर सेसनमा कृषि, बन तथा एलाइड सेक्टरमा डाक्टर कृष्ण हरि गौतम, क्यानडा; र इनोभेसन, उधमशिलाता र टेक्नोलोजी सेयारिङमा डाक्टर मनोज कार्की, अमेरिका; सेसनको अध्यक्ष हुनुहुन्छ। तेस्रो समानान्तर सेसनको अन्तिम तिन घण्टाको

समय नेपाल - नर्थ अमेरिका बिजनेस इन्केल्ब चलाउन माग भई आएकोले त्यसको छुटै कार्यक्रम आउने अनुमान गरिएको छ।

समग्रमा अमेरिकी क्षेत्रको लागि एनआरएनए क्षेत्रीय ज्ञान भेलाको लागि अमेरिका र क्यानडाका ज्ञान भेलाका आठ अध्यक्ष र तिन भेला सहजीकरण विज्ञ गरी एघार सदस्सीय अमेरिकी क्षेत्र विज्ञ समूह गठन भएको छ।

एनआरएनए क्यानडा मुख्य होष्ट रहेको सेप्टेम्बर ५ र ६ को कार्यक्रममा ज्ञान सम्मेलनको लागि भने सेप्टेम्बर-६ लाई तोकिएको छ। सेप्टेम्बर-६ का लागि निर्धारित क्षेत्रीय ज्ञान भेलाका अमेरिकी विज्ञ समूहहरूको व्यक्तिगत प्रोफाइल र उक्त समूहले हालै सार्वजनिक गरेको कार्यपत्र आव्हानको ब्यहोरा तल जस्ताको तस्तै राखिएको छ।

## Call for Abstract:

### NRNA-ICC 2nd Regional Knowledge Sharing Conference

#### *Call for Abstract Submission*

**"Sharing Knowledge, Experience, Skills, and Values to help improve Science & Technology, Entrepreneurship, Policy, and Practice in Nepal"**

**Date: Saturday & Sunday, September 5th-6th,**

**2020 Location: Zoom**

**Abstracts Due August 20, 2020**

**Please send your abstract to the Session Chair (See below)**

The NRNA-ICC invites scholars, professionals, institutions, industry practitioners, entrepreneurs, and problem-solvers to share their new ideas, research, experience, original research results or outcomes, lessons learned, and practical development experience at the NRNA-ICC 2nd knowledge sharing conference. Presenters will also have an opportunity to network with experts, share skills, and discuss potential opportunities.

### **Eligibility**

Abstract submission is open to all, including Nepali Diaspora scientists, students, and researchers from several areas of interest mentioned below. The theme of the submitted abstracts needs to focus on the groundbreaking ideas, strategies, and relevant policies that can potentially contribute to developmental plans and their implications in the context of both Nepal and the Americas. Taking this into account, we invite all interested scholars to submit an abstract (maximum of 500 words) on subjects of broad interests that include:

1. **COVID-19 and its Impact on Economy**  
Chair: Lawyer Mr. Dilli Bhatta; [drb@bhattalaw.com](mailto:drb@bhattalaw.com)
2. **Public Health and Medicine**  
Chair: Dr. Shyam Thapa; [sthapa22181@gmail.com](mailto:sthapa22181@gmail.com)
3. **Knowledge and Skills in Nursing Practice**  
Chair: Ms. Parbati Pandey; [ppmuscan@gmail.com](mailto:ppmuscan@gmail.com)
4. **R&D in Agriculture, Forestry and Allied areas (science, policy, and practice)**  
Chair: Dr. Krishna Hari Gautam; [khgautam@yahoo.com](mailto:khgautam@yahoo.com)
5. **Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Technology, and Knowledge Sharing**  
Chair: Dr. Manoj Karkee; [manoj.karkee@wsu.edu](mailto:manoj.karkee@wsu.edu)
6. **Engineering, Infrastructure Development, and Public Safety**  
Chair: Er. Kedar Shrestha; [knsa2@yahoo.com](mailto:knsa2@yahoo.com)
7. **Energy, Environment, Science & Technology**  
Chair: Mr. Sahaj Man Shrestha; [sahajms@gmail.com](mailto:sahajms@gmail.com)
8. **Education, Social Empowerment, and Equitable Development**  
Chair: Dr. Hari Gurung; [hbgurung@gmail.com](mailto:hbgurung@gmail.com)

Abstracts are due on August 20, 2020, at 11:59 pm (EST, Toronto Canada). Accepted abstracts will be notified by August 25, 2020.

Please send your abstract as an attachment to respective session chairs (see above). Should you wish, you may contact and consult with the respective chair prior to submitting abstract.

### **Abstract Format:**

**Font:** Times New Roman

**Title:** Bold, size: 14

**Author's names (including co-authors), affiliations, email address:** Italics, size 10

**E-mail of the corresponding author:** italics, size 10

**Abstract Text (Body):** size 12

**Keywords:** 3 – 5 words, italic, size 12

**References:** If applicable, please follow APA or any standard writing and referencing guidelines. **Format:** Abstracts written in English or Nepali will be considered. However, we prefer the abstract and PowerPoint in English. Presentations could be made in English or Nepali or a mix.

### **Background**

Sharing knowledge and experience more effectively can help solve complex problems. In these uncertain economic times, the exchange of knowledge, skills, and expertise (practicality) could be a useful basis of collaboration to solve complex problems. However, such a partnership requires close interactions and relationships between experts, problem solvers, and society. Diasporas and organizations like NRNA-ICC can play an essential role in facilitating and strengthening such interactions and networks. By bringing expert communities closer together, they can also help bridge the knowledge and skill gaps and pave the way for future collaborations.

### **Objective:**

The NRNA-ICC's second knowledge-sharing conference's goal is to bring together a great diversity of people and key stakeholders from the Americas and Nepal and exchange knowledge, experience, skills, and opportunities to strengthen the science and technology, human resources, entrepreneurship, policies, and practices in both regions. It also aims to build meaningful relationships between scholars, professionals, institutions, industry practitioners, entrepreneurs, problem-solvers, and the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors in Nepal and the Americas, and pave the way for future collaborations to solve some of our most challenging problems in Science and Technology, Health and Medicine, Education, Economy, and Equitable Development (including gender-equitable development), Engineering, Infrastructure Development, Public Safety, and Energy, and the Environment.

## WHO IS WHO

### Expert Committee

#### Co-ordinator:

Dr. Laxmi Pathak; [lppathak@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:lppathak@lakeheadu.ca)

Dr. Laxmi Pathak teaches researches courses in the Faculty of Education at Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, ON, Canada. He is an experienced faculty with a demonstrated history of working over two decades in post-secondary institutions. Dr. Pathak possesses expertise in curriculum planning, course designing, ELT textbook designing, teachers' training, researching, and event planning. He is an experienced educator with a strong academic background. He possesses BA, BEd, MA, MEd (Tribhuvan University), MPhil (Pokhara University), MEd, and PhD (Lakehead University). Dr. Pathak has also received his Diploma in TESOL Certification courses (Coventry House International). He teaches ESL & EAP at Lakehead Int'l, and provides services to graduate students with academic writing. His area of specialization lies in social, political and cultural contexts of education. Dr. Pathak's interest areas include qualitative research, educational philosophy, cultural competency education, character education, multicultural education, and critical theories. He also has an extensive experience of working in the field of language, linguistics and literature.



#### Special Collaborator:

Dr. Amod Pokhrel; [amodpokhrel@gmail.com](mailto:amodpokhrel@gmail.com)

**Amod K. Pokhrel, Ph.D.**, teaches (Faculty) Environmental Health Sciences in the MPH curriculum at the School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley. He received his MS and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. Recently, he led and completed the Clean Cooking Alliance/UN Foundation funded action research, "Maximizing the health benefits of clean cooking in peri-urban Nepal." For the last twelve years, his research has focused on environmental and occupational health-related to household energy generation and uses in developing countries. His research involves exposure science, energy access and climate change, and environmental epidemiology studies. His research has appeared in many high-impact, peer-reviewed journals.



### Deputy Coordinator:

Scientist Narayan Ghimire; [narayanghimire@yahoo.com](mailto:narayanghimire@yahoo.com)

**Narayan Ghimire**, Food Scientist, engaged as a Disruptive Innovator and Change Leader in the Agri-food Industry of Canada. Over decades, Mr. Ghimire has engaged over 300 customs designed innovative food ingredients creations annually. Most of the creations are offered to the large scale food manufacturers across the globe. A senior member of American Society of Quality (ASQ), Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) and British Society of Flavourists (BSF). He is currently maintaining several professional certifications including ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt, ASQ Certified Quality Engineer, IFT Certified Food Scientist, BSF Certified Flavorist, Certified Pharmaceutical Analyst, Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED Practitioners title, with OACETT Applied Science Technology (AscT) credentials. Currently Mr. Ghimire has exhaustively engaged on herbal based innovative healing food ingredients innovation, co-creation and knowledge and technology sharing to food, cosmetic and pharmaceutical industries.



## The Symposium Chairs

### 1) COVID-19 Impact in Economy

#### Chair: Lawyer Mr. Dilli Bhatta

[drb@bhattalaw.com](mailto:drb@bhattalaw.com)

A managing partner of Bhatta Law & Associates PLLC, a reputed New York based law firm over decades. Attorney with substantial legal-experience in advising and representing corporations and individuals in business related issues and Intellectual Property Law. Represent Artists, Entertainers, Software Developers, Businesses, Trademarks Owners, and Companies and Individuals doing business over the Internet. Exceptional capability on strategic, cutting-edge and creative solutions to legal matters and business concerns including FDI, economic activities including tourism enhancement. Engaging in full-Immigration service necessary for small business and individuals.



## 2) Public Health and Medicine

**Chair: Dr. Shyam Thapa, USA**

sthapa22181@gmail.com

**Shyam Thapa** (PhD, Brown University) is currently an independent consultant specializing in public health research and evaluation. He also works as an adjunct professor at universities both in Nepal and the United States. He has more than 30 years of experience working with public, private, and multinational organizations in multiple countries. For several years Dr. Thapa served as a resident technical advisor to Nepal's National Planning Commission, Ministry of Population & Environment, and Ministry of Health. He has worked as a scientist at the World Health Organization's headquarters and as a Global Health Fellow/Senior Advisor in research and evaluation at USAID in Washington, DC. Dr. Thapa has authored and co-authored many articles and co-edited books and monographs. He currently divides his time, commuting primarily between the United States and Nepal.



## 3) Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Technology and Knowledge Sharing

**Chair: Dr. Manoj Karkee, USA**

manoj.karkee@wsu.edu

Dr. Karkee is an Associate Professor in the Biological Systems Engineering Department at Washington State University (WSU). He was born and raised in Bhojpur, Nepal. He received his undergraduate in Computer Engineering from Institute of Engineering, Pulchowk Campus, Nepal. His MS was in remote sensing and GIS from Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand, and he earned his PhD degree in Agricultural Engineering and Human Computer Interaction from Iowa State University. Dr. Karkee leads a strong research program in the area of sensing, machine vision and agricultural robotics at the WSU Center for Precision and Automated Agricultural Systems. He has published widely in such journals as 'Journal of Field Robotics', 'Computers and Electronics in Agriculture', and 'Transactions of the ASABE', and has been an invited speaker at numerous national and international conferences and universities. Dr. Karkee is currently serving as an elected chair for International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC) Technical Committee 8.1, Control in Agriculture, as an associate editor for 'Transactions of the ASABE', as a guest editor for 'Robotics', and as an elected executive member of Association of Nepalese Agricultural Professionals of Americas (NAPA).





## 4) R&D in Agriculture, Forestry and Allied Areas (science, policy and practice)

**Chair: Dr. Krishna Hari Gautam, Canada**

khgautam@yahoo.com

Dr. Gautam has maintained an extensive and illustrious career in the Government of Nepal where he rose to become an Under Secretary of the Ministry of Forestry and is well traveled in Nepal and internationally. He holds MSc and PhD Forestry from Australian National University and University of Canterbury New Zealand, respectively. He has also completed Post Doctorate at Hokkaido University Japan as a postdoctoral fellow of Japan Society for Promotion of Science and as a nominee of Natural Science and Engineering Council of Canada. He has contributed several papers to international scientific gatherings such as World Forestry Congress, IUFRO World Congress and has published over two dozen research papers in book chapters, conference proceedings, synthesis documents and peer-reviewed journals, and reviewed manuscripts for international journals. Dr Gautam served as an Executive Board member of the Participatory Development Forum, and the Canada-Commonwealth Human Ecology Council Ottawa. His research interests are in sustainable forestry, participatory development, and engaging/empowering local and indigenous institutions, and indigenous/traditional resources management systems. Since 2006, he is working for Canadian Forest Service at the Natural Resources Canada, Government of Canada.



## 5) Engineering, Infrastructure Development, and Public Safety

**Chair: Engineer Kedar Shrestha, Canada**

knsa2@yahoo.com

Highly skilled Contract Administrator/Manager over 25 years of experience in the engineering, infrastructure development (Highways, Bridges and Tunnels) and public safety on the construction contract. An esteemed Professional Engineer Ontario, Canada with a specialization in Bridges and Tunnels.

Experience includes construction administration, construction management, project management of (transit, hydropower, water and sewer) tunnels. Experience in the design, calculation and computer analysis of tunnels, shaft support of excavations and related structures. His routine exposure in other areas includes preparing technical specifications, contract documents, report writing, chair meetings and carry out presentations. A savvy professional in construction management of roads, toll roads and highways.



## 6) Knowledge and Skills in Nursing Practice

**Chair: Staff Nurse Parwati Pandey, Canada**

ppmuscan@gmail.com

A Critical Care Registered Nurse at William Osler Health System (Osler), the Canada's largest community hospitals serving the diverse and growing communities. Over decades of professional engagement in knowledge and skills excellence development and sharing in nursing practices. An academic gold medalist who has succeeded to accomplish a remarkable professional nursing services as an emergency nursing practitioners. Ms. Pandey has contributed for multinational knowledge and methodology in nursing care services sharing.



## 7) Energy, Environment, Science & Technology

**Chair: Sahaj Man Shrestha, Environment Journalist USA**

sahajms@gmail.com

One of the pioneer media person served as program producers and Technical Director (TD) for Nepal television, Chief Executive Producer and Chief Operating Officer for Image channel Television, Executive Advisor for Himalaya Television and Creative director (A/V division) for ECS Media Group in the past. Over three of experiences and engagement as an Environmental Journalists in USA. Actively engaged on strengthening the quality, reach and viability of journalism across all media to advance public understanding of environmental issues. Especially in providing vital technical and other support to journalists of most media facing the challenge of covering complex environmental issues. Currently serving as Steering Committee Members of The Internet Rights and Principles Dynamic Coalition for 2020-2022. Where he represent Civil Society of Nepal. The Internet Rights and Principles Dynamic Coalition promote, and provide a space for multi-stakeholder dialogue and collaboration. This is aiming to be an umbrella platform for facilitating collaboration on human rights issues in the Internet Governance Forum process. Mr. Shrestha also served as President of Nepal Federation of Environmental Journalists in the past.



## 8) Education, Social Empowerment, and Equitable Development

**Chair: Dr. Hari Gurung, Canada**

hbgurung@gmail.com

A Senior Analyst at Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), an independent arm's length agency of the Ontario Ministry of Education. EQAO assesses how well Ontario's public education system is developing students' reading, writing and math skills. EQAO provides reliable and useful information that is used to help improve student achievement and ensure the accountability of school boards. Dr. Gurung is a trained research social economist with expertise in the use of statistical and quantitative and qualitative research methodologies in the analyses of data. He holds a master's in economics, a PhD in ecological and environmental anthropology and graduate certificates in advanced project management, and conservation ecology and sustainable development. He has a wide array of experience, nationally and internationally. He had been an educator teaching agricultural economics at the Institute of Agriculture and Animal Sciences in Nepal; socioeconomic researcher in rural agricultural development in Nepal; research fellow at the International Rice Research Institute, the Philippines; and currently working for the Ontario Ministry of Education in Canada playing a pivotal role in the analyses and reporting of large scale standardized testing data of primary and secondary school students in the province of Ontario, Canada.



Thank you.