

PMI WA-Chapter Newsletter

October 2009

Volume 2009, October Issue

WA PMI Chapter's President Address

Congratulations to the successful nominees at last night's Annual General Meeting (AGM) !!

The results are as follows:

Your incoming Vice-President is Alden Lee.

Your incoming Finance Director is Tara Shah.

Your three incoming non-Executive Directors are:

- 1 Brett Anderson
- 2 Alan Griffiths
- 3 Richard Pragasam

The process from here is that at the November Board Meeting, the non-Executive Directors will be assigned one of the vacated roles:

Certifications Director; or

Communications Director;

or, Membership Director.

Congratulations to the all the above in their new appointments and my thanks to the outgoing Directors for their commitment and service.

ALERT

Some members may have received email communication/s from Tonkin Corporation in relation to an event being held in Perth at the end of November on Project Management in the Resource Sector.

These emails give the false impression that the event is supported by PMI WA.

For the benefit of PMI WA-Chapter Members, and others who may have received the emails, we advise that:

1. Neither of the presenters mentioned in these emails

- PMI WA-Chapter President Nigel Rarp or
- PMI WA-Chapter Communications Director Herman Veltkamp

will be a speaker at, or in attendance at, the Tonkin event;

2. The Tonkin event is not endorsed or supported by PMI –either globally or by PMI WA-Chapter; and,

3. Attendance at this Tonkin event does NOT qualify for PMI PDU credits.

We regret the situation this has placed us in.

Nigel Rarp, PMP
PMI WA-Chapter President



Special Point of Interest!!

Projects-in-Action Program 2009

PMBOK® and PRINCE2® – What Are The Differences and Similarities will be held Tuesday October 20.

Alex Ashton, PMP will facilitate this workshop.

For further information, please go to <http://www.wapmi.org.au/education/index.php#pia>

Clinton in't Veld, PMP
Education Director
PMI WA-Chapter

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Goodbye to Celtic Club, hello to City West!

Time to say goodbye to the Celtic Club. Our November the 11th meeting will be our last meeting at this venue.

MARK YOUR DIARIES NOW!

The December 9th meeting (and all future Chapter Meetings) will be relocating to a larger venue to allow for increased numbers

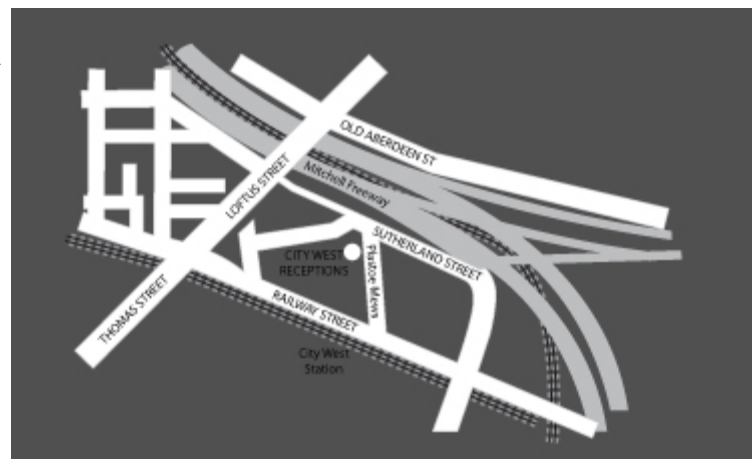
We are still in West Perth but the other side of the train line.

The venue is located close to the City West train station and has plenty of free parking available behind the complex, either on the street or undercover in the City West complex a few minutes walk away.

We encourage all members to use their eVIP card and bring along a guest to the December meeting.

If you need a replacement eVIP card, please email admin@wapmi.org.au

**DECEMBER MEETING AT:
City West Receptions
45 Plaistowe Mews,
West Perth**



“Good” versus “Poor” Project Management

As Project Management has been labelled as the Number One career choice in the world today (by gurus such as Tom Peters and Faith Popcorn), it is imperative that standards are set in the industry to ensure that clients receive the service and skills that they require and pay good money for from project managers.

In the past one to two years, the term ‘Project Manager’ has been more lightly used and has confused people as to what the industry and profession is actually all about.

It is important to keep in mind that to ensure the success of a project (and thereby to ensure the delivery of business benefits) it is vitally important to select the correct project manager with the right type of project management training and experience to help ensure success.

Fundamentally, work performed in any organisation can be divided into Operations and Projects. Whilst Operations refers to the day-to-day running of the organisation, Projects are the ideal vehicles to bring about the necessary changes that ensure that the organisation continually grows from strength to strength. By applying effective project management techniques and processes (and by directing activities and resources) the Project Manager can achieve the set objectives according to predetermined requirements.

The structured approach of Project Management makes it easier for the Project Manager to ensure the success of the project and for the organisation and to track its success and benefits. Modern Project Management combines the principles of human resource management, and the technical application of project management techniques, in such a way that a harmonised delivery of objectives is achieved.

It is important to manage the right project right, So too, is it important to get the right project manager, with the right skills, project management training, and education, to manage those right projects.

Take the following table as a quick checklist of how to ensure you get the right project manager to manage the right project:

Good Reference Selection	Vs	Poor Reference Selection
<p>Knowledge</p> <p>Ensure that the person has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Received adequate and relevant training (under the appropriate NQF Level-4 and upwards) - Training that is registered with PMI® - Knowledge gained through experiential learning (namely, good academic and practical case study mix) - Training that is recognised by accredited institutions (such as PMI®) 		<p>Knowledge</p> <p>Check that you are NOT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accepting accreditations/ degrees and/or certifications/ diplomas from unknown institutions. Not doing a thorough investigation of the person’s abilities and not checking their reference/s - Asking for proof of projects managed - Checking that the person’s knowledge and skill has been applied across the key project phases (i.e., Initiation, Planning, Execution, Control, Close-Out)
<p>Skill</p> <p>Ensure that the person has</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A proven track-record of managing and leading projects - Managed projects through the five key processes of a project (namely, Initiation, Planning, Execution, Control and Close Out) - Managed a project with external stakeholders (which can be Team members, sponsors and clients) - At least 5- to 7-years proven project management experience - Been involved in a multi-disciplinary or cross-functional projects 		<p>Skill</p> <p>Check that you are NOT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accepting that the fact that a person has managed his or her 40th birthday party for 500 people, that this then validates that they are an experienced “project manager” - Accepting recommendations from the “project manager’s” family and friends. Not making sure that the people that you are talking to were directly involved (or affected) by the project
<p>Attitude</p> <p>Ensure that the person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has a collaborative mindset, and is (must be!) facilitative in their management style - Expects and accepts change (this is a MUST!) - Is able to work under pressure and is able to maintain neutrality and independence at all times 		<p>Attitude</p> <p>Check that you are NOT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Giving the person a Project Management Competency Test to ensure that they will be able to deal with your project
<p>Aptitude</p> <p>Ensure that the person has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Management ability - Analytical skills – they must be able to see the big picture and the detail - Logic – they must be aware of external influences (e.g., economic and socio-political) 		<p>Aptitude</p> <p>Check that you are NOT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigating (and/ or not making sure) that the person is not narrow-minded. - Letting the person know what is expected of them

To avoid disappointment, you need to make sure that the Project Manager who you are choosing to manage your project, not only has good training, but is also well-balanced across the four competencies of knowledge, skill, attitude, and aptitude.

The fact is project managers are generally tasked with achieving the near impossible; well trained project managers almost invariably are able to deliver on time, within budget, and to the expectations of stakeholders – with the minimum of fuss. Keep all these factors in mind for your next project and make sure you employ a good project manager to ensure your project is both stress-free and successful.

Project Management
Institute,

**Western
Australia
Chapter,**

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AUSTRALIA



The Western Australia Chapter of the Project Management Institute (PMI®) was established in December 2001 as a not-for-profit Australian organisation.

PMI is the largest international professional organisation for the project management profession and is well known for its international defacto standard publication called the "Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge" (PMBOK®).

The WA Chapter's vision is *"To be the leader in promoting Project Management best practice, professional development, and standards in Western Australia."*

www.wapmi.org.au

Member contributions welcome.

Please contact the Editor at: communications@wapmi.org.au

Errors and omissions to communications@wapmi.org.au

Herman Veltkamp, PMP
Communications Director

Building professionalism in project management.™

Project Management Institute

Our 2009 Projects In Action (PIA) monthly workshops have been a great success thus far, with more than 120 PMI members and other guests attending the various sessions since April of this year.

As we near the end of 2009, it is important that we start early planning for the 2010 PIA schedule. So please read on and consider your involvement in 2010 – PMPs can earn valuable PDUs.

Projects in Action Call for Presenters !

- If you would like an opportunity to facilitate the growth of your fellow PMI WA-Chapter members;

- If you value your education and the education in project management in others; and,

- If you can stand-up in front of a group of delegates, eager to learn from you, and you are happy to share your know-how

*Then, join the ranks of those who **make the difference that matters!***

Proposed Subject Matter Topics and Meeting Slots

The New PRINCE2 2009 Edition – A Revised Methodology – January 2010

Demystifying Earned Value – February 2010

Communication Skills for Project Success – March 2010

Negotiation Skills for Effective Project Management – April 2010

Agile Project Management – May 2010

Dealing With Disruptive Behaviour – June 2010

Matching Project Management Competencies to the Right Projects – July 2010

Business Analysis and Project Management – Is There A Difference? – August 2010

Project Risk Management – September 2010

Understanding Critical Chain and is it Different to Critical Path – October 2010

Effective Presentation Skills for Project Managers – November 2010

Building Quality into Projects – Meeting Customer Requirements – December 2010

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