

TURTLE ISLAND FIJI >>



PONI NAKIA >>



SHORT BIOGRAPHY >>

Poni Nakia works as the Community Liaison Officer for seven community villages in Turtle Island, Fiji. Poni is from the village of Matacawalevu, which is one of the seven villages in the Nacula Tikina. He is in charge of visiting each of the seven villages at least once a week, and has established outstanding relationships with all of the key players in those villages including the Chiefs. Every month, Poni writes the Nacula Tikina news, which is then distributed to all of the villages in hardcopy as well as being sent to 100 or more politicians and public servants in Fiji who are interested in what is happening in the Yasawas. Poni has been specially recommended by Andrew Fairley, Managing Director of Turtle Island.

“Progress on Turtle Island means preserving the natural environment for the pleasure of our guests, not building 500 new rooms.”

Richard Evanson-Turtle Island Owner

ABOUT THE YASAWAS, FIJI >>

The Yasawas is an area which is part of the Nacula Tikina. It includes Turtle Island and 3 larger islands, upon which are situated 7 different villages. Approximately 3,500 people live in this area. There are more and more resorts looking to open up on the Yasawas – most of them indigenous-owned but some are in partnership with Europeans. Thus there is a continuing and ongoing need for awareness at a macro level of the sorts of standards and criteria that these properties ought to be aspiring to.

ABOUT TURTLE ISLAND >>

Turtle Island is a 5 star resort operated on a freehold island in the middle of the Yasawas. It has developed a sustainable tourism policy since the 1990's and has during that time been host to many thousands of guests from throughout the world, who have been exposed to a unique approach to Sustainable Tourism. Their experience on Turtle Island has enabled them to have a greater appreciation of the Fijian people and their culture, and a more complete understanding of what can be achieved through responsible tourism practices, such that it is a win/win situation



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