



29 October 2019

### **Communities in Central Province appreciate RSIPF awareness programs**

Communities in the Central Province appreciate the work of officers of the Royal Solomon Island Police Force (RSIPF) at Tulagi in making them aware of laws protecting the lives of people in the country.

This follows a two-day awareness program from 26 – 27 October 2019 at New Vunuha and Bokolonga Villages as well as the Tulagi Anglican church.

The awareness program included discussions on the RSIPF Crime Prevention Strategy, the Kwaso Action Plan and the Family Protection Act.

Provincial Police Commander, Central Province, Inspector Hugo Maelasi says, “The awareness to ensure communities are well versed with some of the laws that our National Parliament passed recently including the Family Protection Act and other amendments to some of our laws.”

“RSIPF wants to ensure our youth are fully equipped with information that will guide them from involving in anti-social behaviour, kwaso, marijuana and sexual abuse, and to maintain a good relationship with your police.”

PPC Maelasi adds: “I want to appeal to all my stakeholders, community and church leaders in Central Province to work together with the police in driving the Crime Prevention Strategy and Central Province Kwaso Action plan.

“Most if not all of the offences that occurred in our communities are related to alcohol and substance abuse including kwaso. I want to encourage all communities to report to police any one consuming kwaso in the village and brewing illegal alcohol in our communities,” PPC Maelasi emphasises.

During the awareness program the Youth Coordinator at New Vunuha Village, Mr Peter Tuga thanked the police for the positive response to their request to conduct the awareness especially to the youth in the community.

“I believe that whatever message that was presented during the awareness program will encourage our young people to stay away from criminal activities. We look forward to continuing to work closely with the police in this Province,” says Mr Tuga.

Mrs Jessie Kwali from the Tulagi Anglican Church of Melanesian also thanked the police for the awareness program.

“There are a lot of problems affecting families and homes these days. We must all work together as stakeholders with the police to find solutions to these problems that continue to affect members of our families,” says Mrs Kwali.

Mrs Cathy Roy from Bokolonga Village also shared the same sentiments about the awareness program.

“This kind of awareness really helps to address some doubts that our people have about some of our new laws. I encourage members of our communities to work together to address criminal activities that continue to affect our people. We must report any criminal activity that happens in our communities to the police,” says Mrs Roy.

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**Media inquiries**

RSIPF Media Unit:  
24016 or 23800 Ext 239

Email:  
[rsipf.media@rsipf.gov.sb](mailto:rsipf.media@rsipf.gov.sb)

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) was established in 1954. Its mission is ‘To provide a safe and peaceful Solomon Islands by strengthening relationships with the community’. The RSIPF strive to provide efficient and effective policing services for the Solomon Islands and expect RSIPF officers to adhere to the RSIPF values.

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