

FOR THE ALUMNI OF TOLANI MARITIME INSTITUTE

cynosure

the guiding star — the point all eyes turn to

The first call

Saturday 20 June 2026 · live on Microsoft Teams

We came together — across batches, across time zones — and gave the better part of a Saturday to one question: what would an alumni network look like if it actually paid the member back? For nearly two hours, nobody left.

batches old and new · Gulf · India · Singapore · ~2 hours, nobody left · one shared direction

WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO

An independent, professionally-run network for the people of Tolani — built on one principle: membership has to pay the member back.

- ◆ **Trusted jobs** — at sea and ashore, plus a real hand with the move to shore.
- ◆ **A verified directory** — who's where, doing what — your network, one reach away
- ◆ **Group benefits** — the scale of a whole network behind every member
- ◆ **Mentoring, recognition & scholarships**
- ◆ **A standing safety net** — for our own, when it matters most
- ◆ **An Entrepreneurs' Circle** — capital alongside, to back our own founders
- ◆ **A volunteer ladder** — members rise as they build it, with real accountability

"We've always had the bond. Now we build the structure."

— from the call

WHAT THE ROOM SAID

This was a working session, not a sales pitch — direct, honest, occasionally blunt. Four themes carried the room:

- ◆ **Trust is earned, not assumed** — through structure, accountability and transparency — not promises
- ◆ **It has to be mutual** — give-and-get, not charity; every member gets something real back
- ◆ **Start small, let results speak** — one committee, a few committed people, visible progress month on month
- ◆ **Independent, not isolated** — complementary to the institute and existing bodies, never in competition

WHAT WE DECIDED

One clear outcome: we're forming the first working committee — a small core of five to seven who'll commit around 10-12 hours a month and turn this from an idea into an organisation. The first hands are already up.

◆ NEXT CALL

Saturday 11 July 2026 · 11:00 Dubai (GST)

Microsoft Teams — where the committee takes shape and the first objectives are set.

Couldn't make it? This is the moment to lean in. The full notes are doing the rounds — read them, then put your hand up before 11 July. The committee is being built now, and the people who show up are the ones who'll shape it.

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Read the letter · send your questions · count yourself in