

## NEHA PATEL

After 10 years of solid corporate experience in the IT industry, across multiple roles and with a national level responsibility currently, I feel, I am seasoned enough to take a paradigm leap in my professional and personal space. My academic pursuit consists of a degree in Computer Science and augmented with a recently acquired professional MBA from UWA. Also, I have successfully completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors course, with the precise objective of doing my two bits worth on nonprofit basis in organizations like NPS. Though born in Mumbai, I consider myself more of a global citizen as I have spent a reasonable period of my formative years in Kenya, US and from Uni level in Australia. In my early thirties holding a senior manager's position and blessed with an extremely supportive husband and a charming apple of my eye – my son, I feel the time has come to start giving back to the society, which has given me so much.



As a responsible corporate citizen, I feel I am well equipped to bring my decade worth of experience in different functions and contribute meaningfully & effectively to the Board's charter of duties and responsibilities. Specifically, I am keen on contributing towards the policy, strategy, finance and administrative issues. Needless to add should an opportunity exist to utilize relevant IT tools I would be extremely delighted to do so. I have been a sub-committee member of Women in Technology WA (WiTWA) for over two years and am currently on the board of Joondalup Family Centre Inc.

My role on the Board – This can be best summed up by repeating the motto of your Business Plan i.e. **Seek to learn – Think – Create - Collaborate**. I am a firm believer that we never stop learning till the last breath. More importantly, while learning new things I also believe in learning to manage new things, which to me is the hallmark of a good manager – a skill I insist

on mastering. Having set my goal to play an increasingly meaningful role in public space I am consciously honing my thought process on areas of community, public and social responsibilities, which in times to come will help provide inputs in formulating strategies and public policies affecting the citizens of WA. Moving on, my ardent desire is help creating an ecosystem wherein children of today who are the citizens of tomorrow get exposed to an environment that facilitates natural growth, keep fuelling the childlike curiosity, make education a 'looked forward to' experience and develop significant abilities individual to oneself, so that progress becomes a natural corollary of every single child's growth. Finally, as the saying goes – 'no man (time to change it to "human" in terms of being gender neutral, isn't it!) is an island', no matter how noble or ideal the cause or idea maybe, the successful execution is possible when a group or a team that adopt the common objectives come together and collaborate selflessly towards the greater benefit. Successfully managing a staff of 65 members in the current job is possible only when as a leader I can work for and with the team.

In closing, the sole objective in joining the board is to develop a symbiotic relationship of give and take as I would like to keep my journey of learning and contributing alive and kicking – for the betterment of the society that we live in.