

A Spark of Genius

An employee's story - Sumankumar Patel,
ICT Sales Representative, Spark

Life changes can sometimes work out so well that you can look back and see that your decision to take a leap of faith and try something else, was a spark of genius.

This was what happened for Sumankumar (Suman)Patel who left India and a position as a Junior Sales Executive with Tribhuvan Industries, to find new work and a new life in New Zealand.

Suman had completed a Bachelor of Commerce in India but decided to continue his studies in New Zealand by completing a Business Management Course through the Royal Business College in Auckland. This helped him to adjust to a New Zealand way of doing business.

He also needed work. A friend suggested Suman try the New Kiwis programme and in May 2014, Suman attended a three day training session with New Kiwis.

"It was really useful for me. I enjoyed the training and I learnt a lot. I got (the job I have now) through using the tips gained from this training and through a one on one session with Employment Migrant Liaison, Cheng Goh.

I have had a good experience with this programme."

New Kiwis offers future employees, useful and practical information about how to prepare for job applications and job interviews, as well as coaching employees on how to present when they get an interview.

"I learnt how to make a proper C.V," says Suman. "I also learnt how to write a cover letter and how to attend (prepare for)an interview ; I practised some questions and answers for job interviews and I developed my skills and attributes during this New Kiwis training and coaching session which gave me good confidence."

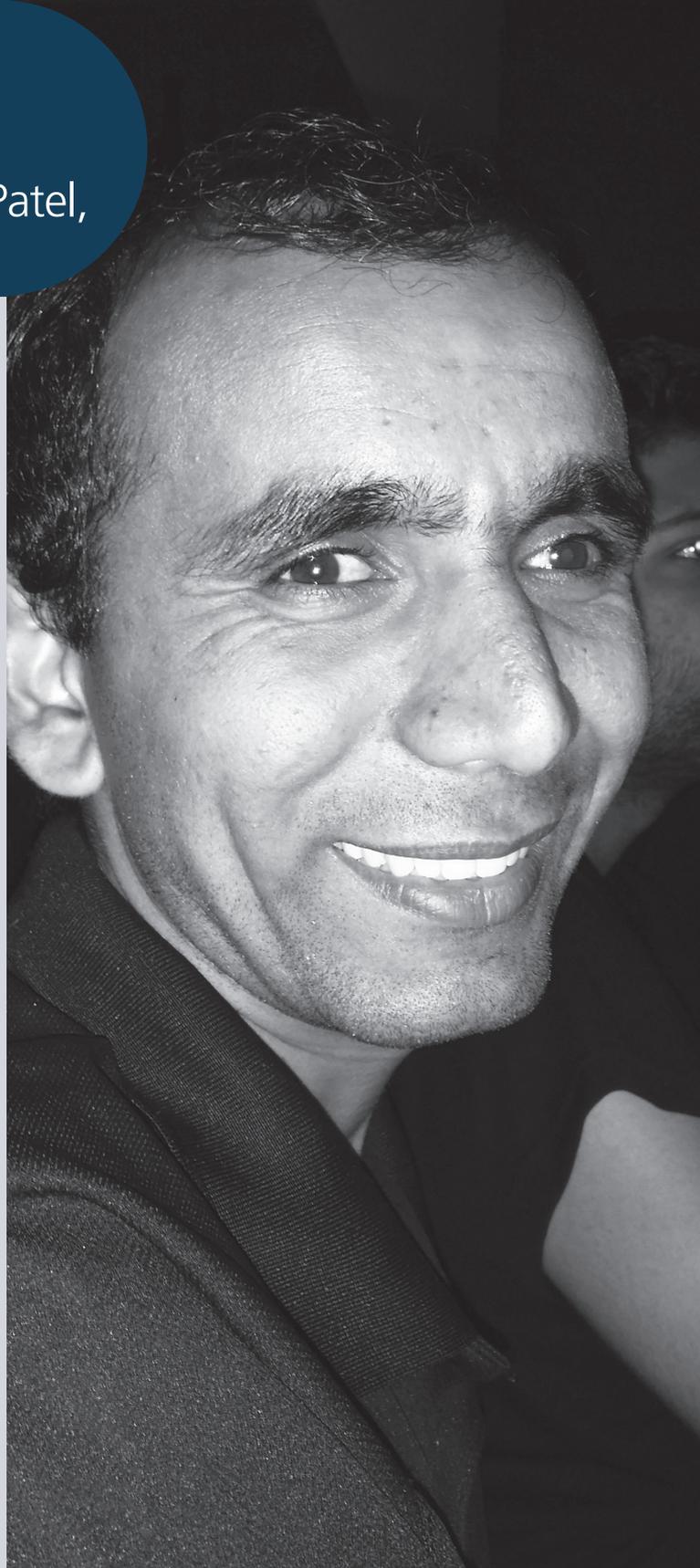
Suman says there were easy to understand steps through the programme including -

1. How to create a properly formatted C.V
2. How to attend (prepare for) an interview
3. Understanding interview questions and how to answer

Suman's experience at New Kiwis sparked off his own efforts to secure a fulltime position within a New Zealand business. He is happy to confirm that he now has a position with major telco, Spark, as an ICT Sales Representative.

When asked if he had any advice or suggestions for someone who is job searching in Auckland or New Zealand, Suman was enthusiastic about his experience with New Kiwis saying, "I would like to suggest every job hunter just attend the New Kiwis training and sessions."

*Interview with Sumankumar Patel conducted by Taryn Ellis,
Auckland Chamber of Commerce, in June 2015.*



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The New Kiwis website and service is a nationwide employment initiative designed to connect new and returning Kiwis with employers via the Chamber of Commerce brand and networks. The website can be used autonomously or additional support and services for both job seekers and employers can be accessed by calling **0800 709 907** or email newkiwis@chamber.co.nz.

New Kiwis initiative is a partnership between Immigration New Zealand and the Auckland Chamber of Commerce.