



MINUTES

INTERCULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 5 September 2018 at 6.30pm at Melton Library and Learning Hub

Present: Cr Bob Turner, Mayor, Melton City Council
Cr Melissa De Santis, Councillor, Melton City Council
Liz Smith, Acting Coordinator Community Capacity, Melton City Council
Essan Dileri, Intercultural Development Officer, Melton City Council
George Hatzimanolis, Odyssey House Victoria
Lynette Dawson, Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services
Tutana Bradshaw, Home of Multicultural Exchange
Christina Prakanthan, Natyatharu School of Performing Arts/ Bharathanatya
Aacharya Association of Victoria
David Cowan, Melton Interfaith Network
Deepti Alurkar, Mums Dance Club - Founder and President, Connectwest No
Hunger Community Leadership Program
Gurpreet (Gary) Verma, Vice President Sri Durga Temple
Sasee Devaraja, Tamil Ethnic Language School
Vonivate Tawase Drui, Fijian Community Association Victoria Inc
Amy McDonald, Home of Multicultural Exchange
Matthew Cameron-Rogers, Community Hearing Advisor, Hearing Australia
Iskandar Zulkarnain, Emergency Management Project Officer, Melton City
Council
Bruce Marshall, Coordinator Economic Development & Tourism, Melton City
Council

Chairperson: Cr Bob Turner, Mayor, Melton City Council

1. Welcome

Chairperson began the meeting with Melton City Council Acknowledgment of Country.

2. Introductions

Chairperson welcomed Committee members.

3. Apologies

Lillian Campos, Service Coordination Officer, Melton City Council
Hammam Dewanyang, South Sudanese Community
Kubir Khanal, Bhutanese Community Melton Inc
Vishma Guatam, Nepalese Community in Melton
Tigist Kebede, Ethiopian Community
Robert Aduer, South Sudanese Community

4. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil



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5. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Motion

D Cowan / G Verma

That the Committee adopts the minutes of the Intercultural Advisory Committee meeting held on 20 June 2018.

6. Business arising

Nil

7. African Communities Working Group (ACWG)

L Smith presented a summary of the ACWG's meeting held on 14 August 2018. The ACWG received a Keep Victoria Beautiful award under the Community Action and Leadership category. This award recognises initiatives that contribute positively to the community, demonstrate leadership, foster community spirit and build stronger communities.

The ACWG is in the process of planning the Black Excellence event which will be a career expo event to be held in 2019 aiming to help secondary school students with their career pathways. Foundation House also attended the meeting and presented on their services. Foundation House provides services to advance the health, wellbeing and human rights of people of refugee backgrounds in Victoria who have experienced torture or other traumatic events in their country of origin or while fleeing those countries.

8. Hearing Australia

M Cameron-Rogers presented on Hearing Australia's services. Established in 1947, they provide hearing services under the Australian Government Hearing Services Program which has two streams: the Community Service Obligation program and the Voucher Program. Their programs target children, young adults under the age of 26, veterans, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and pensioners.

Their services include:

- assessing hearing
- selecting and fitting hearing devices
- regular hearing checks to monitor changes
- training to improve listening and communication
- providing counselling and rehabilitative programs
- ongoing care and device repair services
- home visits for those unable to travel to a clinic
- helping to manage hearing loss on a day-to-day basis.

Action

M Cameron-Rogers to email E Dileri the PowerPoint presentation to be forwarded onto the Committee members.

9. Djerriwarrh Festival

E Dileri presented on the Intercultural Stage at the Djerriwarrh Festival which will be held on 10 November 2018 and encouraged Committee members to attend and bring along their family and friends. He also informed the Committee about two performance opportunities left for community groups to fill at the Intercultural Stage. C Prakanthan and G Verma offered to organise performances by their group.



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Action

E Dileri to send Djerriwarrh Festival flyer to Committee members.

G Verma and C Prakanthan to confirm the participation of their groups in Djerriwarrh Festival via email with E Dileri

10. Emergency Management - Thunderstorm Asthma

I Zulkarnain presented some information about thunderstorm asthma which may occur between October and December. He talked about the symptoms of a thunderstorm asthma attack and the procedures on how to seek medical assistance in case someone is affected by it. He referred to the thunderstorm asthma incident in Victoria in 2016 which resulted in deaths in the community and emergency services were inundated with 000 calls. He encouraged Committee members to spread the messages among their communities. He offered to attend community events/meetings to talk to people about thunderstorm asthma.

Action

I Zulkarnain to email E Dileri the PowerPoint presentation to be forwarded onto the Committee members.

11. Other Business

B Marshall briefly presented on Council's Hot House Project funded by the State Government. The project aims to support individuals and communities with their business startup initiatives with the following criteria:

- Business model is scalable and can grow big
- Business has capacity to enter the export market
- The founder will grow the business with the intention of selling and starting a new startup.

Action

B Marshall to send the PowerPoint presentation to E Dileri to be forwarded onto the Committee members.

D Cowan talked about Melton Interfaith Network's event, Connecting Melton Communities – Free Dinner which is a partnership with the Sri Durga Temple and Council. 150 people will attend the event. There will be cultural performances by local community groups.

D Alurkar informed the Committee about the Film Festival on 31 October 2018. The event is organised in partnership with Council and Melton Reading Cinemas.

T Bradshaw informed the Committee about a fund raising event on 29 September 2018. She also talked about the Market Day in Melton on 24 November 2018. More details about this event will be sent to the Committee. She also talked about Melton South School Holiday program which will happen on 24 and 25 September and 1 and 2 October 2018.

A McDonald talked about the Dream Big Festival on 14 and 15 September 2018. She also mentioned the Drum Big workshop and encouraged the Committee to participate. She will send more information to the Committee about both programs.

C Prakanthan will participate in Council's Lifelong Learning Festival on 6 October 2018. She will organise a dance performance to be performed at the Festival.



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G Hatzimanolis talked about Odyssey House and Headspace. They are currently accepting referrals of clients. He will send more information about their services to the Committee.

V Tawase talked about a multicultural festival on 13 October 2018 organised by the Fijian Community Festival Melton. He will send more information about the event to the Committee.

L Dawson talked about the first year anniversary of the Adult Migration English Program (AMEP) by Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services in Melton which coincided with the 70th anniversary of the AMEP. She also said that they are part of the Melton Lifelong Learning Festival which takes place in October 2018.

S Devaraja informed the Committee about the Tamil Arts Competition in October 2018.

G Verma talked about Dussehra which will take place on 21 October 2018 at Sri Durga Temple. The event will include a carnival, music, dance, rides and food. He will send more information to the Committee.

L Smith promoted Melton Lifelong Learning Festival which will happen from 5-7 October 2018. There will be 135 learning events in 53 event venues all free of cost. She also encouraged Committee members to take part in Build Melton Hospital campaign by signing the petition.

Action

Committee members who organise events to send flyers to E Dileri to be forwarded onto the rest of Committee members.

12. Close of Business

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.