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INTERCULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 21 November 2018 at 6.30pm at Melton Library and Learning Hub

Present: Cr Melissa De Santis, Councillor, City of Melton
Jessica Trijsburg, Coordinator Community Capacity, Melton City Council
Essan Dileri, Intercultural Development Officer, Melton City Council
Lillian Campos, Service Coordination Officer, Melton City Council
Fran Grossi, Intercultural Development Officer, Melton City Council
Lynette Dawson, Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services
Tutana Bradshaw, Home of Multicultural Exchange
David Cowan, Melton Interfaith Network
Hammam Dewanyang, South Sudan
Vishma Guatam, Nepalese Community in Melton
Tigist Kebede, Ethiopian Community
Robert Aduer, South Sudanese
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
Aderajew Asayhe, Semine Gondar Welkait Tsegede Edr/Member
Patrick Kariuki, Kenya Community Victoria
Akuot Martin Majier, Proactive Unit Vic Police/ south Sudanese Community
Deng Riak, South Sudanese Community member

Chairperson: Cr Melissa De Santis, City of Melton

1. Welcome

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

2. Introductions

Chairperson welcomed Committee members.

3. Apologies

Kubir Khanal, Bhutanese Community Melton Inc
George Hatzimanolis, Odyssey House Victoria
Christina Prakanthan, Natyatharu School of Performing Arts/ Bharathanatya Aacharya Association of Victoria
Cr Bob Turner, Mayor, City of Melton
Deepti Alurkar, Mums Dance Club - Founder and President, Connectwest No Hunger Community Leadership Program



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4. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil

5. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Motion

S Devaraja/ G Verma

That the Committee adopts the minutes of the Intercultural Advisory Committee meeting held on 5 September 2018.

6. Business arising from previous meeting

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

E Dileri to send Djerriwarrh Festival flyer to Committee members. **Actioned**

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

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

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

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

7. African Communities Working Group (ACWG)

E Dileri presented a summary of the ACWG's meeting held on 16 October 2018. Members of the ACWG attended Melton Business Excellence Awards, VLGMIN Forum and Mayoral Ball events.

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. Council submitted a funding application to Federal Government's Fostering Integration Grant to cover the cost of the event.

8. Networking – ACWG and IAC members joint dinner

The ACWG members joined the Committee meeting for networking and a shared meal. Cr De Santis asked everyone to introduce themselves and thanked members of the IAC and ACWG for their contribution in 2018.

ACWG members gave feedback to IAC: R Aduer said many communities outside the municipality speak highly of Melton City Council's commitment in the Intercultural programming. T Kebede said Melton City Council's approach in the diversity space is different and is leading the way in this space.



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9. Other Business

Committee members talked about Djerriwarrh Festival – Intercultural Stage on 10 November 2018. G Verma said it was a great event. There were more people around the Intercultural Stage than previous years. D Cowan and V Gautam said there were long queues at the food trucks.

Cr De Santis opened the ground for the Committee members to share what is happening in their respective communities. T Bradshaw informed the Committee about the Market Day on 24 November 2018 at GAP on Graham Street, Melton. There will be stalls, entertainment, performances and activities for all age groups. V Tawase talked about the Fijian Day event on 13 October 2018 at the Melton Recreational Reserve. This was the first time the event took place in Melton. Members of his community enjoyed the event so much that they decided to organise future Fijian Day events in Melton. Cr De Santis encouraged Committee members to make use of the Melton Amphitheatre. It is for everyone to use and contribute towards the activation of that space. A McDonald talked about her group's performance to take place as part of Melton City Council's Live at the Horse program which will happen at the Melton Amphitheatre. T Bradshaw also encouraged community groups to make use of that space. A MacDonald expressed dissatisfaction about smoking at the Melton Amphitheatre. D Cowan suggested to have food trucks stationed near the Amphitheatre. That will more attract crowd. T Bradshaw proposed if the space could be heated during winter to provide a meeting location for people while people enjoy performances if any.

R Aduer talked about the challenges parents of students face regarding the location of voting stations. T Kebede suggested to invite Victorian Electoral Commission to come and present at one of IAC's future meetings.

Cr De Santis asked the Committee if they are happy with the quarterly meeting schedule. Four members suggested that IAC meet every two months. J Trijsburg proposed that Committee members host future meetings at locations where their community meets i.e. community centre, place of worship etc.

R Aduer requested that details of Teenage Holiday Programs be sent to him so that he could promote among students as school break is fast approaching.

Actions

E Dileri to forward feedback of the Committee members to Council's Events Team regarding the long queues at the Djerriwarrh Festival 2018.

E Dileri to pass contact details of Council Officer looking after the Amphitheatre onto the Committee.

E Dileri to forward Committee members' input to Council Officer looking after the Amphitheatre

E Dileri to speak with Council's Communications Team if they could share a link to voting centres in the municipality on Council's Facebook.

E Dileri to schedule Committee meetings every two months

Committee members who would like to host future IAC meeting to liaise with E Dileri

E Dileri to send the contact details of relevant Melton Young Communities staff who organise Teenage Holiday Program



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10. Close of Business and future meeting dates

- 27 February 2019 - Melton Library and Learning Hub
- 22 May 2019 - Caroline Springs Library and Learning Hub
- 21 August 2019 - Melton Library and Learning Hub
- 20 November 2019 - Caroline Springs Library and Learning Hub

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.