



# MINUTES

## INTERCULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 2 Oct 2019 at 6.30pm at Caroline Springs Library and Learning Hub

**Present:** Cr Yvonne Sebire, City of Melton  
Robyn Mitchell, Melton City Council  
Essan Dileri, Melton City Council  
Luke Hartley, Headspace and Odyssey House Victoria  
Gurpreet (Gary) Verma, Vice President Sri Durga Temple  
Kubir Khanal, Bhutanese Community Melton Inc.  
Lila Acherye, Bhutanese Community  
Lynette Dawson, Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services  
David Cowan, Melton Interfaith Network  
Tigist Kebede, Ethiopian Community  
Amy McDonald, Home of Multicultural Exchange  
Adam Josifovski, Melton City Council  
Liam Petersen, Melton City Council

**Chairperson:** Cr Yvonne Sebire, City of Melton

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### 1. Welcome

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

### 2. Introductions

Chairperson welcomed Committee members.

### 3. Apologies

Mayor, Cr Bob Turner  
Christina Prakanthan, Natyatharu School of Performing Arts/ Bharathanatyia Acharya Association of Victoria  
Deepti Alurkar, Mums Dance Club - Founder and President, Connectwest No Hunger Community Leadership Program  
Hammam Dewanyang, South Sudan  
Sasee Devaraja, Tamil Ethnic Language School  
Lillian Campos, Service Coordination Officer, Melton City Council  
Vishma Guatam, Nepalese Community in Melton  
Vonivate Tawase Drui, Fijian Community Association Victoria Inc.  
Tutana Bradshaw, Home of Multicultural Exchange (HOME)  
Robert Aduer, South Sudanese

### 4. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil



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### 5. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

IAC meeting 21 August 2019 did not meet quorum. The Committee confirmed the minutes of previous meeting held on 22 May 2019.

#### Motion

K Khanal/ G Verma

That the Committee adopts the minutes of the Intercultural Advisory Committee meeting held on 22 May 2019.

### 6. Business arising from previous meeting

- Committee members to send information and flyers related to their activities to E Dileri to be forwarded onto the Committee. **Actioned.**
- E Dileri to invite a Council officer from Venues team to come and present to the Committee. **Actioned**

#### Recommendation

G Verma/ D Cowan

That the Committee recommends that Council consider providing an outdoors space for major community events in the eastern corridor and surrounding suburbs such as Caroline Springs, Taylors Hill, Fraser Rise.

Note: This recommendation was raised in the last meeting. However, it wasn't put forward because the last meeting didn't meet quorum requirements. Thus, the Committee had to seek endorsement of the above recommendation again.

### 7. African Communities Working Group (ACWG)

E Dileri presented on the first meeting of the ACWG held on 3 September 2019. The new members were inducted into the Group. The Terms of Reference of the Group was discussed and some changes were proposed. The Group also discussed about the key objectives to focus on for the next two years and explored ways on how to achieve those objectives. ACWG's members briefly presented on their events and programs and updated the Group about initiatives in their respective communities.

### 8. Council Venues – Melton City Council

A Josifovski and L Petersen, presented on Council Venues. They talked about Council's support available for community groups who plan to hire Council's venues to organise their events. They went through the policy and procedures surrounding Council venues which included public liability insurance, short-term and long-term venue hiring, online booking and staff support. They encouraged Committee members to plan ahead and put in their application as early as possible because the demand on Council venues is growing rapidly to avoid disappointment. They mentioned there are 32 hireable venues spread across different suburbs in the City of Melton.

#### Action

E Dileri to forward a copy of the presentation on to the Committee.



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### 9. Djerriwarrh Festival

E Dileri discussed Council's Djerriwarrh Festival event – Intercultural Stage on 9 November 2019 from 12pm to 5pm. Committee members were encouraged to participate and inform E Dileri if their groups want to perform or to be present to share their culture with the broader community. K Khanal offered to organise a performance by the Bhutanese Community Melton the Intercultural Stage.

### 10. Other Business

Cr Sebire opened the floor for the Committee members to share what is happening in their respective communities.

Cr Sebire ensured if Committee members received invites for the Mayoral Ball.

G Verma discussed two major events organised by Sri Durga Temple in October which will bring together thousands of people. He will share the flyers with the Committee. He also talked about weekly program at Sri Durga Temple from 12-4pm with free food. All visitors are welcome.

K Khanal discussed the language school which runs on a weekly basis and the Multicultural event on 20 Oct 2019, which will bring together many community groups to share their culture with the rest of the community.

D Cowan informed the Committee about the Baha'i Community event on 28 October 2019 and Sikh Community event on 2 November 2019 both happening in partnership with the Melton Interfaith Network.

L Dawson discussed home volunteer program for the AMEP students who are unable to attend classrooms due to family reasons. She encouraged Committee members to promote the program in their communities.

L Hartley discussed self-care workshop for young people 12-15 years old as part of Mental Health Week.

A McDonald discussed HOME's programs over school holiday. The auspice arrangement for the local South Sudanese Women's group where also discussed. A McDonald informed the Committee about Dream Big Festival and rehearsal of the performing group for the Djerriwarrh Festival street parade.

T Kebede presented on Black Mental Health event to take place on 30 November 2019 in partnership with Jesuit Social Services.

E Dileri discussed the upcoming training and other community programs organised by Council.

#### Actions

E Dileri to forward all flyers discussed at the meeting to Committee members.

### 11. Close of Business and future meeting dates

- 20 November 2019 - Caroline Springs Library and Learning Hub

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.