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**MM1/21 RACISM NOT WELCOME AND WELCOMING CITIES  
CAMPAIGNS - Mayor, Councillor Jerome Laxale****File Number: MYR/07/10/20 - BP21/124**

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For many years, the City of Ryde has been an active participant in the “Racism – it stops with me” campaign.

In May 2018, in response to some isolated instances of racism, Council unanimously adopted a Mayoral Minute to reaffirm its opposition to all forms of racism and to support multiculturalism and inclusiveness.

Council subsequently also developed its own campaign titled “make a stand against racism”.

Further, in partnership with Macquarie University, Council supported a research report through the PACE program focusing on racism and international students.

Recently, I have been made aware of two new campaigns targeting racism.

The first is a campaign, spearheaded by Craig Foster - a former Socceroo captain, SBS presenter and human rights campaigner which has gained support from various local councils.

The campaign is titled “racism not welcome” and amongst other aims, wants to see symbolic anti-racism messages pop up on street corners in iconic locations around the country.

The second campaign is titled “welcoming cities” and is a national network of cities which are committed to an Australia where everyone can belong and participate in social, cultural, economic and civic life.

In NSW there are ten member councils to date including Parramatta and Hornsby Councils.

There is no cost to join the network which provides access to images and promotional material for social media, access to inclusion research, plans and research and invitations to meetings of state based members.

By becoming a member, Council commits to identifying at least one key staff contact who will liaise with the Welcoming Cities team and to communicate regularly through conference calls and an annual in person meeting to progress planning and sharing between other communities.

**MM1/21 (continued)**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council endorse and become a member of the “racism not welcome” campaign and continue to encourage advocacy and promotion of the campaign in the local area.

That Council endorse and become a member of the “welcoming cities” project.

That should funding be required to implement membership, events, advocacy and promotion of either campaign, that a report be brought back to council for consideration.

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:



**Councillor Jerome Laxale**  
**Mayor**