# City of Ryde MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 17 November 2016

## SOCIAL INCLUSION WEEK "Collaborate, Connect, Celebrate"

Social Inclusion Week (19 - 27 November) is being celebrated in the City of Ryde in a number of ways, with special events for all sections of the community.

Monday 21 November

Why Social Inclusion is Good for Business

Optus, 1 Lyonpark Road, Macquarie Park, 12.15 - 2.00pm

A business lunch for senior executives, HR advisors and diversity managers, hosted by City of Ryde Acting General Manager.

Bought to you by City of Ryde in partnership with Optus and Australian Business Consulting & Solutions

Topics discussed include:

- The importance of social inclusion and why it's good for business
- What does the National Disability Insurance Scheme roll out mean for businesses
- How to market yourself as an inclusive business

Guest Speakers: Larry Forsyth - Senior Manager, WHS & HR Consulting Services - Australian Business Consulting & Solutions; Sean Willenberg - Disability Inclusion Promotions Officer, NSWWBC; Jo-Jo Burke - Senior Marketing Consultant, Australian Business Consulting & Solutions

#### **Tuesday 22 November**

#### Social Inclusion Film Night – Our Stories

#### Ryde Library, 1 Pope Street, 6.00 – 7.30pm

This special event explores residents' experiences of inclusion and features THREE films produced in partnership by City of Ryde, Macquarie University, Salvation Army, and residents of Ivanhoe Estate, made possible through Macquarie University's Professional and Community Engagement (PACE) program.

'Unified Ryde' - Explores racism and responses to racism in the City of Ryde

**'Footprints: Remembering Ivanhoe Estate'** - Stories of resilience and celebration of the lives of Ivanhoe Estate residents

**'Our Space'** - Stories and voices of the young people and services involved in the making of the "Our Space" Eastwood Integrated Youth Services Hub.

Panel discussion and community performances.

### Wednesday 23 November One Thousand Wishes – the unveilling of a unique artwork using 1,000 individual pieces of origami made by members of the community, each contain a wish. West Ryde Community Hall, Anthony Road, 10.30am

Taking the theme of Social Inclusion week, Council staff *collaborated* with two local organisations – Ability Links and Artisans Ryde - to coordinate the One Thousand Wishes project.

With their help we **connected** people from right across the community by organising workshops to show them how they could master the traditional Japanese art of Origami. Groups included men's groups, CCA groups, seniors, young people, people with disabilities, multi-cultural groups, new citizens.

Today we *celebrate* the unveiling of a unique artwork created by Artisans Ryde, made from one thousand Orgami horses, each one containing an individual wish, and each one made by a member of the community. Tradition says that each wish will then be granted.

One Thousand Wishes project aims to raise awareness and promote social inclusion by embracing and celebrating diversity within the City of Ryde.



Friday 2 December **Beach Themed All Abilities Accessible Disco** Ryde Civic Hall, 1 Devlin Street 2.00 – 4.00pm

City of Ryde is partnering with Royal Rehab, Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre and Bondi Pizza to celebrate International Day of People with Disability. Dress in your loudest beachwear to win a prize. Carers welcome. No individual support will be provided. Contact <u>disco@royalrehab.com.au</u>

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