

MEETING RECORD

Subject:	Inclusion and Access Working Group
File No:	CLR/22/60/5
Document Ref:	D23/155939
Venue:	MS Teams
Date:	Wednesday 1 st November 2023
Time:	6:00pm Started: 6.06 pm Closed at: 7.20 pm
Chair:	Sean Willenberg – Coordinator Community Development
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors
Staff Convenor:	Kim Harris – Community Development Officer Social Inclusion
Circulation:	Working Group members and website

Committee Role:

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
		Clr Sarkis Yedelian OAM	Mayor - COR	
x		Clr Pedersen	Councillor - COR	
		Clr Han	Councillor - COR	
		Joe Bechara	Community Representative	
		Aida Yazdani	Community Representative	
x		Emilie Lemasson	Community Representative	
x		Jeongmin (Cecilia) Park	Community Representative	
	x	Sarah McFayden	Community Representative	
		Kim Roots	Community Representative	
x		Gaynor Starkey	Community Representative	

City of Ryde Staff

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Sean Willenberg	Coordinator Community Development	City of Ryde
x		Kim Harris	Community Development Officer – Social Inclusion	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

Details

1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p><u>Acknowledgment of Country</u></p> <p>Sean Willenberg provided the Acknowledgement of Country.</p>	Noted.
2.	<p>Minutes from the last meeting – 2nd August 2023</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 2nd August 2023 were adopted.</p>	Noted.
3.	<p>Actions:</p> <p>Information on RALC learn to swim classes for adults.</p>	Noted.

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Details

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Classes available on Monday to Friday evenings including beginner and intermediate classes. - Special needs classes for children and adults are held on weekends. - Bookings for special need classes are required and are arranged with a one student to one teacher ratio. - In 2024 CALD community members will be able to attend special classes which are fully funded for people over the age of 17. Classes will be held at Denistone East Public School including 10 lessons over 10 weeks. 	
4.	<p>Disability Inclusion Action Plan Annual Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The draft annual report has been prepared and 53 of 92 actions have been reported. - The draft report will be included in Council's Annual Report. - The report will be submitted to the Department of Communities and Justice. 	Noted
5.	<p>Inclusive Volunteering Project update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Dept of Premier and Cabinet has funded the project. - Two information sessions for people with disability have been held since August 2023 and four disability training sessions have been conducted for Council staff. - A webpage has been developed and the link will be sent to the working group members. committee. - Information is available in several languages. - The project will conclude in February 2024 and a final report will be produced which will note the outcomes. 	Noted.
6	<p>Wheelchair Access in the City of Ryde</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cecilia advised that she has a family member who requires use of a wheelchair for the next few months. 	Noted.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whilst assisting this family member she has noted that Top Ryde City Shopping Centre is not wheelchair friendly. - Accessibility issues include limited accessible toilets, the travelator is not safe for use with a wheelchair, the lifts are very slow and/or full or not working. - On the Coles level there was no accessible bathroom. - Cecilia recommended that a person with a lived experience checks accessibility at sites. - The toilets are not easily accessible and the lift on Devlin Street is also an issue. - Staff advised that groups using wheelchairs have been taken to Top Ryde and that security staff have helped access the lifts to provide access to the cinemas. - Clr Pedersen suggested that the issues are reported to Council to support an approach to Top Ryde City. - If specifics are provided to Clr Pedersen, she will put a motion to Council for staff to meet with Top Ryde City. 	<p>Details to be forwarded to Clr Pedersen.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>DDA Video of Accessible Acknowledgement of Country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DDA held a recent expo that was attended by several Councils and hosted by North Sydney Council. - DDA provided an Acknowledgement of Country in several languages and also a version by a person with a hearing impairment and a person with a sight impairment. - Council’s website supports the Acknowledgement of Country to be translated into several languages. 	<p>Clr Pedersen would like to see Ryde Council adopt this for groups associated with Council.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Upcoming Events:</p> <p><u>Social Inclusion Week</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 18th to 26th November 2023 - There are 9 activities planned, which are listed on Council’s webpage. - 22nd November – 15 social groups will be providing details of the services they offer, 	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Kim to distribute flyers detailing the activities for Social Inclusion</p>

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	<p><u>International Day of people with disability</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There will be also be various activities for International Day of People with Disability including an All Abilities Disco, Dragon Boat racing and Rideability unleashed which will be held at RALC. 	Week and International Day of People with Disability
9.	<p>Planning and Guest Speakers for 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working Group members were asked to nominate any guest speakers. - Rebecca Street who is an autism representative for ASPECT was suggested and Bernadette Cornier knows people who are giving talks about their lived experience. - Clr Pedersen suggested her former schoolteacher who runs the Cornucopia Art Group. - A representative from NDIS was also suggested. <p>Topics for 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LGBTQI - Events and opportunities for the working group for the year not just specific days/weeks. - Dinner party for groups with autism. - Side by Side Advocacy workshop From Me to Us for people who want to work in groups but have an intellectual disability. - Department of Housing on accessible and affordable housing. - Starts regarding refugees who are trying to integrate into society including LGBTQI. 	Noted
10.	<p>General Business</p> <p>Spark Festival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was noted that the Festival has been held and that it was at a camp venue. Participants stayed on site and took part in different activities over the days of the event. <p>Accessible toilets</p>	Noted

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A question was raised regarding the cleaning regime for these toilets. - Often the toilets are locked and not all Councils use the same MLack key so access is difficult. <p>Swim class date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is Council collecting feedback from the people who do the swim classes to gain their feedback? <p>Volunteering project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of the project will be undertaken to determine the outcomes for people with disability. 	
11.	<p>Next Meeting: Wednesday 7th February 2024</p> <p>Sean thanked all for their input and attendance throughout the year.</p>	Noted