

Subject:	Multicultural Working Group	Page 1 of 6
File No:		
Document Ref:		
Venue:	TEAMS	
Date:	Thursday 18 th August 2022	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.05pm Closed at: 7.35pm
Chair:	Sue Verhoek - Senior Coordinator Community Services	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Jennie Dang - Community Development Officer – Cultural Diversity	
Circulation:	Working Group members and website	

Committee Role:**Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference**

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
x		Anthony Ching	Community Representative	
x		Hassib Elias OAM	Community Representative	
x		Gary Patni	Community Representative	
	x	Angelina Bonifacio	Community Representative	
		Roseanna Gallo	Community Representative	
x		Chavalin Svetanant	Community Representative	
x		Leechan Zhang		
	x	Lydia Scuglia		
	x	Rose Torrosian		
x		Kevin Pagaddinnimath		
x		Geeta Rani		
x		Leon Li		
x		Alberto Machionne		
	x	Tony Tang		
x		Raj Raman		
x		Bin Lin		
x		Harvey Ng		
		Kitty Ng		
	x	Viola Lo		
x		Balu Moothedath		
x		Neda Jovasevic		
x		George Wu		

City of Ryde Staff

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Sue Verhoek	Senior Coordinator Community Services	City of Ryde
x		Jennie Dang	Community Development Officer – Cultural Diversity	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
x		Angela Phippen	Acting Senior Coordinator Library Programs	City of Ryde

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Details	Action
<p>1. Welcome and Apologies</p> <p><u>Acknowledgment of Country</u></p> <p>Sue Verhoek provided the acknowledgement of country.</p> <p>As this was the first meeting of the newly appointed working group, each member was asked to introduce themselves to the group.</p> <p><u>Raj Raman</u> – is a local resident who already works closely with Council and wants to build on this relationship</p> <p><u>Harvey Ng</u> - lives in the Ryde LGA and has a corporate background. He came to Australia at 14 from Hong Kong. He speaks and writes a number of languages</p> <p><u>Bin Lin</u> – has lived in Eastwood for 20 years. He is the Principal of the Chinese Language School and takes part in a regular radio show.</p> <p><u>George Wu</u> – is a student who also works as an insurance assessor. He was lived in Ryde for 5 years and likes the harmonious way the community acts together.</p> <p><u>Chavalin Svetanant</u> –lives in Ryde and is a teacher at Macquarie University in media and comms, language and literature. Has a Thai background and speaks Japanese.</p> <p><u>Leechan Zhang</u> – has lived in the area for over 20 years. Enjoys the events and activities held in the local area. Is a member of a band and choir.</p> <p><u>Kevin Pagaddinnimath</u> - has lived in the area for 24 years. He is a member of Multicultural Council of NSW, a CMRC ambassador and is passionate about community work. He is also involved with the SAFAL Festival.</p> <p><u>Gary Patni</u> – has lived in Marsfield for 3 years. He wants to build the local multicultural community</p> <p><u>Geeta Rani</u> - lives in Ryde and was educated in India. She is an accountant who works in education and community work and arranges events for the multicultural community</p> <p><u>Balu Moothedath</u> – has lived in Australia for 14 years and teaches Hindi. Is active in the Lane Cove area.</p> <p>Hassib Elias OAM – Is President of the Australia/Palestine Association and has lived in Ryde for 50 years. Was Ryde Citizen of the Year in 2019. Helps Iraqi and Syrian refugees and has taken part in various anti racism videos for Council.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

	Details	Action
	<p><u>Alberto Maccione</u> – Is of Italian heritage and has lived in the area for 15 years. He runs a charity for people with a fatigue related disease. He works in the Italian and Spanish media and is passionate about multiculturalism.</p> <p><u>Anthony Ching</u> – is a local dentist who has lived in Eastwood for 15 years. Has been a Rotary President and is involved with CMRC, Ryde Community Forum and is involved with events such as Moon Festival and Granny Smith Festival.</p> <p><u>Leon Li</u> - has lived in Ryde for 10 years and runs an investment company. He is involved in local festivals etc.</p> <p><u>Jennie Dang</u> – has been at City of Ryde for 7 months following her previous employment with Georges River Council. She has an NDIS and community service background.</p>	
2.	<p>City of Ryde Code of Conduct</p> <p>The information in the Code of Conduct was noted and agreed to by all attendees.</p>	Noted
3.	<p>Multicultural Working Group Terms of Reference</p> <p>The information in the Multicultural Working Group Terms of Reference was noted and agreed to by all attendees.</p>	Noted
4.	<p>Market Gardens Recognition</p> <p>Background: At its meeting of 24 August 2021, Council resolved to consult with the Italian Migrants of Ryde and the then Multicultural Advisory Committee to recognise Ryde’s history of multicultural (Italian, Chinese, British) market gardens.</p> <p>Council endorsed recognition of the market gardens and sought community input regarding what that should be.</p> <p>This item was presented to the former Multicultural Advisory Committee who were supportive of the recognition and requested further information once suitable sites had been identified.</p> <p>Angela Phippen, Library Historian, attended the meeting and provided a presentation on the history of Italian and Chinese market gardens in Ryde.</p> <p>Staff Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A memory post is placed in Coxs Road, at the front of the library in recognition of the Italian market gardens. 	Noted

	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A memory post is located in Waterloo Park in recognition of the Chinese market gardens. • The memory posts display a QR code that is linked to Council’s website to the Historic Places page that will highlight information on the history of the Italian and Chinese market gardens. • The working group was advised that the Italian Migrants Committee have requested a bronze statue to accompany the memory post. Quotes have been obtained at an approx. cost of \$60,000. A statue will need to be installed at both locations at a cost of approx. \$120,000. Due to the cost staff advised that this will not be recommended to Council. • A member of the working group suggested the planting of trees at the memory posts relevant to the cultures to that of a bronze statue. It was further suggested that Council’s sister cities in Donguan and Italy could donate the trees. • A further suggestion was that the memory posts could incorporate common words from both Mandarin and Italian that represent words linked to the gardens. <p>The suggestions of the working group will be included in the Council report.</p>	
5.	<p>16 days of Activism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council conducts activities each year to mark this event. - From 25th November to 10th December a global campaign to end violence against women is conducted - COVID limited activities during the last couple of years, so mostly on-line initiatives. - Staff and representatives from CMRC have met to consider ideas for this year including the Multicultural Ambassadors. - It was noted that language is often a barrier for members of the CALD community regarding domestic violence and that this is a sensitive topic. - Suggestions for activities include: - An education campaign focussed on men to promote that domestic violence is not okay. - Share stories with other men who have been perpetrators and have seen the error of their ways. - Promote available support services with posters and flyers translated in different languages - Create a video translated into a range of languages to go on social media and websites - Set up a safe room - Further discussions are planned with the Community Multicultural Ambassadors. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Sue will send information to members of what is proposed when more is arranged</p> <p>Will ask people for their comments or ideas</p>

Details	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alberto advised that a safe room had been established at Mac Uni which was quite successful – promoted as somewhere people could go to get information so it is multipurpose and not just a safe room - Maybe get community leaders from CALD and male civic leaders to take part in a campaign together to say they stand together against domestic violence - Social media is very powerful – could have a message from leaders over the 16 days - The campaign is to raise awareness and available support services. - Perhaps an anonymous help line through CMRC or similar so people can speak to staff for help - It was noted that Council’s role is to provide awareness and information on available support services and not to provide direct services. 	
<p>6. Multicultural Ambassador Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ambassador program began in 2020 between CMRC and City of Ryde. - Community volunteers from diverse communities in Ryde receive training and support so that they can assist newly arrived migrants and residents from diverse backgrounds to access local support services. - There are currently 32 active ambassadors representing 18 cultural communities including Iran, India, China, Korea etc - Zoom meetings were held during COVID and the program is unique. - A further 10 volunteers have recently been recruited. 	The information was noted.
<p>7. City of Ryde Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Moon Festival – 30th August North Ryde School of Arts 10 - 12.30 - Due to time limits, Jennie will send an email with upcoming events. 	Noted
<p>8 General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NIL 	Noted
<p>9. Next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 10th November 6:00pm - 7.30pm in the Committee Room – Level 1A Pope St, Ryde and via TEAMS</p>	Noted