

<b>Subject:</b>	Multicultural Working Group	Page 1 of 6
<b>File No:</b>	CLR/22/60/6	
<b>Document Ref:</b>	D23/121776	
<b>Venue:</b>	TEAMS and Top Ryde Councillors Meeting Room	
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	
<b>Time:</b>	6.00pm	Started at: 6.00 pm    Closed at: 7.30 pm
<b>Chair:</b>	Sue Verhoek - Senior Coordinator Community Services	
<b>Meeting Support (MS):</b>	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
<b>Staff Convenor:</b>	Jennie Dang - Community Development Officer – Cultural Diversity	
<b>Circulation:</b>	Working Group members and website	

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

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Sarkis Yedelian OAM	Mayor and Councillor	City of Ryde
x		Trenton Brown	Councillor	City of Ryde
		Daniel Han	Councillor	City of Ryde
x		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	
x		Roseanna Gallo	Community Representative	
	x	Chavalin Svetanant	Community Representative	
		Leechan Zhang	Community Representative	
	x	Lydia Scuglia	Community Representative	
		Rose Torrosian	Community Representative	
	x	Kevin Pagaddinnimath	Community Representative	
		Leon Li	Community Representative	
x		Alberto Machionne	Community Representative	
		Tony Tang	Community Representative	
x		Raj Raman	Community Representative	
x		Bin Lin	Community Representative	
x		Harvey Ng	Community Representative	
		Kitty Ng	Community Representative	
x		Viola Lo	Community Representative	
x		Balu Moothedath	Community Representative	

		Neda Jovasevic	Community Representative	
		George Wu	Community Representative	

**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		Kathy Yang	Programs Librarian – Volunteers and Multicultural	City of Ryde

**Details****Action**

1.	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p><u>Acknowledgment of Country</u></p> <p>Sue Verhoek provided the Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed all present.</p> <p>Sue also acknowledged the attendance of the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillor Brown.</p> <p>The attendees and apologies are as per the details above.</p>	Noted
2.	<p><b>Adoption of minutes – 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023</b></p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were adopted.</p>	Noted
3.	<p><b>Actions from previous minutes</b></p> <p>Actions/Updates from previous minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jennie to send out Council's upcoming events and Nasrin's presentation and contact details to the group members.</li> <li>• Piazza Bietola sign and memory posts. The three signs have been manufactured and look and will be installed in October 2023.</li> <li>• Ruins at Macquarie University – Angelina, Roseanna and Lydia have been in contact with Luke from Macquarie University. Discussions were fruitful and the university is looking into funding possibilities.</li> <li>• Racism not Welcome Street Signs - At a recent Councillor</li> </ul>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

<b>Subject:</b>	Minutes – Multicultural Working Group – 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	Page 3 of 6
-----------------	--	-------------

	Details	Action
	<p>Workshop the working group’s suggestion to display a positive message was considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Council report will now be prepared for consideration by the full Council suggesting the following messages: Unity in Community; Embrace Diversity and Celebrate Diversity.</li> <li>• The majority of the working group members support ‘Unity in Community’.</li> <li>• The new signage will be in orange as this is the colour of harmony.</li> </ul>	Noted
4.	<p><b>Guest Speaker: Community Harmony – Dr Bin Lin and Mr Chris De Bruyne. Master Ho was also in attendance.</b></p> <p>Mr Chris De Bruyne, provided the following details.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In 2019 Chris De Bruyne was in Eastwood and observed a speech by Drew Pavlou, who made a statement against the leader of CPP.</li> <li>- As Mr Pavlou was speaking, many members of the public began shouting, swearing and attacking him. Mr De Bruyne was shocked by this behaviour, not only at the violence but also the lack of action by bystanders.</li> <li>- Mr De Bruyne Chris suggested that Council needs to do something more than erect anti-racism signs to stop the violence that was shown on this day. It was also noted that the incident in 2019 was not an isolated one.</li> <li>- He stated that recently, elements of the Chinese community have been spreading propaganda in regard to the recently announced Korea Town amongst sections of the Chinese community.</li> <li>- Sue advised that Council has commenced bystander racism training, as most people do not know what to do when confronted by incidents such as described above. To date this training has been well attended by community members.</li> <li>- Mr De Bruyne stated that many people want Council to reconsider the matter raised at Council in July 2019 when the resolution of Simon Zhou was successful in stating that only Chinese people, not the whole community is to be consulted in certain matters.</li> <li>- It was suggested that consultation instigated by Council needs to be open to all the public and that this working group and staff need to come up with recommendations about how Council consults on issues in the community.</li> <li>- A question was raised as to whether the attack on Mr Pavlou has been taken up by any outside government agencies and did anyone in the community approach Foreign Affairs, etc. This matter has been raised with Federal Government representatives including the Department of Home Affairs.</li> </ul>	

<b>Subject:</b>	Minutes – Multicultural Working Group – 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	Page 4 of 6
-----------------	--	-------------

	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr De Bruyne suggested that any discussions about Hong Kong should be open to all people not just the Chinese community.</li> <li>- A question was asked, as to whether this working group should be involved in this type of political issue.</li> <li>- A suggestion to Council is that all discussions are open to all and never restricted to one demographic of the community.</li> <li>- The following recommendation was agreed to by the working groups members- <i>‘Council investigates ways to enhance social cohesion and community harmony in Ryde and ensures that consultation is undertaken with the broader community and is open to everyone’.</i></li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b>Guest Speaker: Council for Intellectual Disability- Rohan Coleman</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An overview of the Council for Intellectual Disability (CID) was provided and how they support people with an intellectual disability. CID is a non-government organisation, that has been operating for 65 years.</li> <li>- CID works as an advocate for people, campaigns to government, conducts workshops and provides resources for people with a disability and their support networks.</li> <li>- The Council wants to address 3 of the barriers faced by its clients being: inclusion in government communications, safety on public transport and to for employment positions in the public sector.</li> <li>- Your Service Your Rights is a peer group, which meets monthly to connect people and to allow them to be mentored and be a mentor.</li> <li>- Our Rights Project supports decision making and helps then navigate NDIS services.</li> <li>- Health projects aim to remove inequity of health outcomes faced by people with intellectual disability.</li> <li>- At present, many people with an intellectual disability only work in ADE’s – formerly Sheltered Workshops. The above project aims to get them into more general workplaces.</li> <li>- The More than Just a Job Project is partnered with COR, when Council will be delivering inclusive training to stakeholders.</li> <li>- Looking for volunteers i.e. people with disability to join the More than a Job Project especially those from CALD communities.</li> </ul>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>Contact details for Rohan to be provided to working group members.</p> <p>Contact Jennie for more details or to join the project.</p>
6.	<p><b>Council’s Upcoming Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Refugee Wek was held in June with over 210 people attended with an additional 50 people attending health events, dance fit etc</li> <li>- Women’s Health Week will be held in September 2023. An email has been sent with details of the events to be held.</li> </ul>	

<b>Subject:</b>	Minutes – Multicultural Working Group – 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2023	Page 5 of 6
-----------------	--	-------------

**Details**

**Action**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moon Festival will be held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept from 4 – 6pm at North Ryde School of Arts. The program is for children and families will include craft, face painting, cultural dances and performances.</li> <li>- Mental Health Month events will include a guided walk and nutrition talk.</li> <li>- Social Inclusion Week will include a Community Expo which will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 23.</li> <li>- 16 Days of Activism will be held in November 23. Three events have been arranged, to date, including workshops on how to manage anger, jealousy and insecurity and will be delivered in several languages. More activities to support men’s mental health will also be arranged.</li> <li>- Supporting Inclusive Volunteering project- An EOI will be sent to CALD groups for this project, which will be held from now to Feb 2024. What is Volunteering and how to find Volunteer Work sessions will be held in September and October.</li> </ul>	<p>Jennie will send an email with all details of the up and coming events.</p> <p>Working Group members are encouraged to attend these events and share the flyers with their networks</p>
--	---	--

6.	<p><b>Other upcoming Events/Projects</b></p> <p>Italian Migrants of Ryde</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roseanna gave a brief update on the Book Launch which was held on May 19<sup>th</sup> at St Anthony’s Church Marsfield.</li> <li>- Approx 500 people attended the event, which included a mass to celebrate migrant pioneers and the launch and sale of the book. The Mayor and Clr Brown were in attendance.</li> <li>- The Italian community was very proud of the achievements of their forebears, and it was a great night.</li> <li>- Books were donated to the Council’s Library Services and other groups.</li> <li>- Copies of the book are still available for sale.</li> </ul>	<p>The information was noted.</p>
----	--	-----------------------------------

7.	<p><b>General Business:</b></p> <p>Referendum and The Voice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Raj advised that many families with multicultural background do not know that the referendum is being held or what it’s about and asked that Council pass a motion to support the Voice.</li> <li>- Raj noted that many multicultural people have never met a first nations person and suggested an event be held where first nations people could explain what is going on.</li> </ul>	<p>The information was noted.</p>
----	--	-----------------------------------

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff advised that Council has discussed this matter and decided that Council respects the decision of Australian voters, and it is an individual choice. The Mayor has written to both local Yes and No campaign groups requesting that they notify Council of events and materials so Councillors can share across the networks or attend.</li> <li>- Sue advised she can send some resource links to working group members on both Yes and No cases.</li> </ul> <p>Local Government Week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Harvey thanked the Council staff for their work throughout the year for the community.</li> </ul>	<p>Sue to send appropriate links to working group members re the yes and no cases for The Voice.</p>
8.	<p><b>Next meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 9 November 2023 6:00pm - 7.30pm in the Committee Room – Level 1A Pope St, Ryde and via TEAMS</p>	<p>Noted</p>