

Subject:	Multicultural Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 4
File No:	CLR/07/8/101/1/8	
Document Ref:	D19/83677	
Venue:	Meeting Room, Level 1A Pope Street, Ryde	
Date:	Thursday 30 th May 2019	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.05pm Closed at: 7.22pm
Chair:	Councillor Simon Zhou	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Jonathan Nanlohy, Community Projects Coordinator (Sector Development)	
Circulation:		

Committee Role:

The primary role of the Community Harmony Reference Group is to:

- Provide advice to Council to ensure that Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) residents in the City of Ryde are able to participate actively in all aspects of community and civic life and that Council recognises and values the diversity of the community

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor Simon Zhou	Chairperson	City of Ryde
		Councillor Bernard Purcell	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
		Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
		Councillor Christopher Moujalli	Councillor Representative	City of Ryde
x		Hugh Lee	Community Representative	
x		Adele Garnier	Community Representative	
x		Hassib Elias	Community Representative	
		James Kim	Community Representative	
	x	Rossella Tisci	Community Representative	
		Safar Samed	Community Representative	
x		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
	x	William Seung	Community Representative	
x		Kevin Pagaddinnimath	Community Representative	
		Lesley Tomasulo	Community Representative	
		Nathan Moulds	Community Representative	
		Anthony Ching	Community Representative	
		Caroline Xu	Community Representative	
		Peter Zangari	Community Representative	
		Ana Borba	Community Representative	
	x	Alice Chik	Community Representative	
		Badawe Abboud	Community Representative	
	x	Huiting (Lisa) Liu	Community Representative	
		Tony Tang	Community Representative	

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
	x	Angela Jones-Blayney	Director – Customer and Community Services	City of Ryde
	x	Lindsay Godfrey	Manager – Community and Ranger Services	City of Ryde

x		Jonathan Nanlohy	Community Projects Coordinator (Sector Development)	City of Ryde
x		Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
x		Sue Verhoek	Senior Coordinator Community Services	City of Ryde
x		Dr Felix Lo		observer
x		Anastasia Fotias		observer
x		Elizabeth Dao		observer
x		Phil Benson		observer
x		Alberto Macchione		observer
x		Louis Lu		observer
x		Ben Wang		observer

Details**Action**

1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Introductions</p> <p>Clr Zhou welcomed those in attendance.</p> <p>Nakita Mitchell and Claudia Micallef (Council staff members) were introduced to the group.</p> <p>Those in attendance and apologies are as above.</p>	Noted.
2.	<p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 28th February 2019 were confirmed.</p>	Noted.
3.	<p>Council initiatives with CALD communities</p> <p><u>Multicultural Ambassador Program – business case update</u></p> <p>At a previous meeting of this Committee, Councillor Zhou suggested that Council initiate a service for the CALD community whereby multicultural “ambassadors” assist newly arrived members of the community access services available in the local area.</p> <p>The intention was for a cohort of ambassadors from a number of communities to be established and appropriate training provided.</p> <p>A budget bid has now been approved by Council for the establishment of this program. \$30,000 per year for two years has been provided.</p> <p>Staff are now preparing information regarding how the necessary training will be carried out, what will be included etc.</p> <p>An expression of interest from potential ambassadors will open in mid September 2019.</p> <p>A training schedule will then be established based on the needs of the trainers.</p> <p>A working party for this project should meet prior to September.</p> <p>The working party to comprise – Dr Felix Lo, Kevin Pagaddinimath, Hassib Elias, Clr Lo, Anthony Ching, Agnes Shim,</p> <p><u>CALD Womens Domestic Violence visit - Gladesville</u></p> <p>On 25th March, 2019 an information and support services visit was held in Gladesville.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>A working party for the project to meet prior to September 2019.</p>

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<p>It was the 8th session held over the last 3 years and approximately 25 participants attended.</p> <p>Participants were provided information relating to DV - police and court processes and DV – support services.</p> <p>Burwood Council is the feeder court for the Ryde area.</p> <p><u>Ryde Sesquicentenary</u></p> <p>Claudia Micallef addressed the group regarding the upcoming Ryde Sesquicentenary and sought input from the group regarding activities which could be run to mark the event.</p> <p>Claudia advised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This event will celebrate 150 years since Ryde was declared a municipality. - A report will be provided to Council regarding ways the sesquicentenary can be recognised. - This committee is asked for input into ways to recognise the event and in particular the last 50 years in Ryde. - Events will be held during the year 2020. 12th November 1870 is the actual date of the declaration but events are not restricted to that date only. - Suggestions included: - Hold an event similar to Parrasamala incorporating all cultures in the area. - Engage the large Armenian group in the local area. - Celebrate the linguistic diversity in the area. Over half the households in Ryde don't speak English as a first language. - Involve Macquarie University in any celebration - Include Street Theatre in any celebration - Conduct a short film competition so that people can share their stories, could even be in a foreign language. - Showcase a history based on how people have changed from their first generation status to now when maybe they are 4th or 5th generation. - The process of becoming "Australian" to be highlighted. - Involve the Aboriginal community. Follow the story of custodians of the land. <p>Activities to be on line and uploaded to Council's Youtube channel</p> <p><u>Ryde Civic Centre Proposal</u></p> <p>Claudia provided an update to the group on the proposal for the Ryde Civic Centre site.</p> <p>Public exhibition commences in June 2019 following a Council resolution on 28th May 2019 which approved concept plans.</p> <p>Community space for socialisation will be included in the plan. There is no</p>	<p>The information was noted</p> <p>The information was noted. Additional suggestions should be forwarded to staff/Claudia</p> <p>An email reminder to be sent to all committee members when the consultation period opens.</p>
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<p>residential proposed for the site. Rates will not increase to fund the proposal.</p> <p>The concept plan is not yet on the website but a media release has been uploaded to the website.</p> <p><u>Council Events</u></p> <p>Nakita Mitchell provided an overview of recent events conducted by the City of Ryde.</p> <p>Recent events arranged by Council include:</p> <p>January – On Australia Day a Citizenship Ceremony was held and then later that day an Australia Day concert was held where the Ryde Citizen of the Year was named. The Battle of the Bands event is also held at the concert.</p> <p>February – Lunar New Year celebration was held in Eastwood</p> <p>March – The Park Series was conducted which comprised outdoor movies and a performance by the Ryde Hunters Hill Symphony Orchestra in the grounds of Brush Farm House.</p> <p>April – The West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair was held. Council’s ANZAC service was conducted in Anzac Park West Ryde and the Meadowbank Skate Park facility was opened.</p> <p>May – The Cork and Fork by the Riverside event was held as was the Volunteer Awards night</p> <p>In October Council will conduct its major annual event – The Granny Smith Festival It was noted that stall holder applications open in early July.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p>
<p>4. <u>Working Parties</u></p> <p><u>Racism – it stops with me campaign – update and PACE submission with Macquarie University</u></p> <p>Adele Garnier, Anastasia Fotias and Elizabeth Dao provided an update on this issue.</p> <p>Four hundred international students were interviewed about their experiences of racism in Australia.</p> <p>Three main topics were canvassed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What sort of racism do international students experience - What do they think is the cause of that racism - Where do students experience racism. <p>In NSW – 80% of people say they have not experienced racism. The figure sampled at Macquarie University was higher at 90%.</p> <p>Of those surveyed, 63% believe racial discrimination occurs in Australia with 82% of the general population believing it occurs.</p> <p>The survey respondents were not sure if migrants should be accepted into Australia and if the level of immigration was too high or too low.</p> <p>Public transport was the main site of racism which was usually verbal.</p> <p>The survey has highlighted the following points for Council to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People/politicians should be encouraged to be involved in events where 	<p>The information was noted.</p>

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<p>multicultural groups will be taking part</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loneliness was a big issue highlighted during the survey. International students need to be made to feel part of the community. They often feel they are not welcome. - Although counselling sessions are available, students don't always feel comfortable taking part - The lack of street lighting is an issue for students. Many work in hospitality and need to walk home late at night. - Education regarding the rights of students – especially in relation to working ours, pay etc, could be improved. - A buddy system run through societies and clubs at uni would help. <p>It was noted that some of the above are matters where Council can take action and that in other cases, Council can act as an advocate.</p>																
<p>5. Agenda Items</p> <p><u>Citizenship Ceremonies – update and demographics</u></p> <p>Information was provided to the group regarding the statistics from Citizenship Ceremonies from July 2018 to May 2019.</p> <p>The top 5 Countries of origin for citizenship were</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>▪ INDIA</td> <td>141</td> <td>16.06%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>▪ SOUTH KOREA</td> <td>139</td> <td>15.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>▪ CHINA</td> <td>100</td> <td>11.39%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>▪ PHILIPPINES</td> <td>86</td> <td>9.79%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>▪ IRAN</td> <td>44</td> <td>5.01%</td> </tr> </table>	▪ INDIA	141	16.06%	▪ SOUTH KOREA	139	15.83	▪ CHINA	100	11.39%	▪ PHILIPPINES	86	9.79%	▪ IRAN	44	5.01%	<p>The information was noted.</p>
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<p>6. Other Business</p> <p><u>Upcoming Events</u></p> <p>Karaoke Plaza – 22nd June at Eastwood Plaza.</p> <p>A combination of art, dance, singing. Details are available on Council's website.</p> <p>Refugee Week – 17th June 2019</p> <p>Refugee week will be celebrated at Gladesville Church and at Gladesville Library.</p> <p>Mahoobas Promise - 22nd June 2019.</p> <p>An event will be held at Eastwood Town Hall – details to be sent to committee members.</p> <p>NAIDOC week - 8th July 2019.</p> <p>Performances will be held at Ryde Library and an event at West Ryde Plaza with flag raising and smoking ceremony.</p> <p><u>Update from members</u></p> <p>Felix Lo advised that AAAB will hold a community multicultural cooking competition in November 2019.</p> <p>Ryde Community Forum will hold an event in September 2019 – updates to follow</p> <p>SAFAL, with support from Council, will hold event on 4th August at Brush Farm House. The event will include an art display and talent quest, literature event and</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p>															

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	poetry slam. The SAFAL Awards night will be held on 10 th August at Ryde Civic Centre. More details to follow.	
7.	Meeting Dates for 2019 The meeting dates for 2019 are as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, 29 August 2019 • Thursday, 28 November 2019 	Noted.
8.	Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Multicultural Advisory Committee will be held on 29 th August 2019	Noted.