

Subject:	Multicultural Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 4
File No:	CLR/07/8/101/1/8	
Document Ref:	D21/2267	
Venue:	Meeting Room, Level 1A Pope Street, Ryde	
Date:	Thursday 26 th November 2020	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.00pm Closed at: 7.10pm
Chair:	Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM	
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 Multicultural Advisory Committee 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 Sarkis Yedelian OAM	Chairperson	City of Ryde
		Councillor Trenton Brown	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
x		Councillor Peter Kim	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
		Councillor Roy Maggio	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
		Dr Felix Lo	Community Representative	
x		Hugh Lee	Community Representative	
		Adele Garnier	Community Representative	
x		Hassib Elias	Community Representative	
		Jaewoo Kim	Community Representative	
		Rossella Tisci	Community Representative	
		Molly Smith	Community Representative	
		Agnes Shim	Community Representative	
		William Seung	Community Representative	
x		Kevin Pagaddinnimath	Community Representative	
x		Aurelia Rolman	Community Representative	
		Kate Snailham	Community Representative	
x		Anthony Ching	Community Representative	
		Jane Ho	Community Representative	
x		Peter Zangari	Community Representative	
		Ana Borba	Community Representative	
x		Alice Chik	Community Representative	
		Elvis Wu	Community Representative	
x		Gurnam Singh	Community Representative	
x		Tony Tang	Community Representative	
		William Ho	Community Representative	
x		Dr Lin Bin	Community Representative	
		Safar Samad	Community Representative	

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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		Peter Glynn	Superintendent Commander	Ryde LAC

Details		Action
1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Introductions</p> <p>Clr Yedelian welcomed those in attendance.</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 27th February 2020 were confirmed.</p>	Noted.
3.	<p>Welcome New Members</p> <p>Superintendent Commander Peter Glynn of Ryde Local Area Command was introduced to the group.</p> <p>The Superintendent advised that he has met with various members of the multicultural community and noted the diverse and receptive multicultural community of Ryde.</p> <p>He noted that in general, people are happy to work with the police and to find solutions to issues that may arise.</p> <p>A community safety precinct meeting was held last week with members from multicultural communities invited.</p> <p>Although the meeting did not have a large attendance, another meeting will be held next year.</p> <p>Alice spoke on behalf of the university regarding the anti racism works that it has been carrying out.</p> <p>Superintendent Glynn said the police will be going to the uni again to follow up work in the past.</p> <p>He also looks forward to meeting people in person soon.</p>	The information was noted.
4.	<p>IMPACT OF COVID</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In NSW, many 20 – 24-year-old people are experiencing mental health stress due to unemployment, food security, housing etc. There has also been a rise in domestic violence. - The above has also been reflected locally. - It is estimated that over 9000 people will become homeless in NSW - Up to 24% of families will experience housing stress - It was noted that many people are not eligible for government assistance - To assist people in the local community Council joined with Harris Farm to undertake the 100 bag project - Under this program, 4,500 bags of goods were delivered to vulnerable members of the community including international students, unemployed, elderly etc. 	The information was noted.

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Details		Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Groups such as Northern Centre, Red Frog, Gladesville Christ Church, MTO and Community Services all assisted. - Multilingual pamphlets were also distributed, and information put on Council's website and rates notices providing health information - Although Council's libraries closed, a home delivery service was established. - Events such as Granny Smith, NAIDOC Week and Refugee Week etc moved to an online forum - Lots of information on domestic violence, etc went online to provide people with information they needed during this time - Other organisations, not just Council also switched to online activities - There was a very high take up rate by people getting involved with online training especially older CALD people - They learnt how to use smart phones, iPads etc which meant they could access the services on offer. - Community organisations and Council all adapted very quickly to what lockdown meant to isolated communities and trained people how to access various services - Feedback from group members is they would like the online to remain but have face to face added to the mix - CI facilities were opened up when they could be but with health rules implemented such as number of people in attendance etc. - Ahwer thanked Council for the use of its hall which is now back using the facility to help with members who were feeling isolated. 	
5.	<p>Council initiatives with CALD Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The multicultural ambassadors present were welcomed and congratulated on completing their training. - They were thanked for offering to help their communities - It was noted that the program and volunteer recruitment has been a tremendous success with 40 – 42 ambassadors from a number of communities including Arabic, Cantonese, French, Malay etc. - After recruitment, the ambassadors were given training on volunteering, migration, multiculturalism, services, networks, child protection, domestic violence etc. - All training was undertaken viz zoom due to COVID> - After the training, people met face to face - People are keen to help in their communities. - In March 2021, an office will open in Top Ryde and it is hoped to establish a roster of volunteers who can connect with and help isolated people. - Information regarding "racism stops with me" was given to members - Ambassadors are encouraged to attend TRIM Place to take part in a domestic violence campaign and to get involved in the Art project being undertaken. - Jonathan provided information about the domestic violence podcast that has been recorded and explained their purpose - Court visits will also continue, and ambassadors will be encouraged to disseminate information to people and raise awareness in their own communities. - Mental health was discussed as it is a big issue for CALD communities and also at Macquarie Uni. - Alice will send information which might assist Gurnam in his interactions with the Indian community. - The Taste of Diversity event will be held on 10th December at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club - On 25th November 2020, the 'Make a stand" campaign will commence and run for 16 days. - It follows from White Ribbon and No excuse for Abuse and is a partnership between Council, Hunters Hill Council and CMRC, - Council will be providing art signs, events at TRIM places, Facebook items etc. 	The information was noted.

Details	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A digital vigil will also be held where people can light a candle and take a photo to share on social media with hashtag to honour victims and survivors of domestic violence. - People are encouraged to take selfies and upload them. 	
<p>6. Working Parties</p> <p><u>Racism it stops with me</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are 8 PACE students working on the 'racism stops with me' campaign - The anti-racism survey is moving online. - It is hoped students will be able to attend campus soon - Some resources are aimed at students and some at the wider community - The first draft will be sent to committee members to review - It was noted that Alice's work has been recognised in the national press - The partnership between Council and the University's PACE program is going really well <p><u>Harmony Day</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is hoped to hold this event in 2021 - There are still some restrictions for outdoor events ie events must be fenced, ticketed and people need to stay in allocated seating. - Could maybe do a mixed event with it shown on screens and with a limited number of people taking part outdoors - A working party will be set up to examine options 	The information was noted.
<p>7. Citizenship Ceremonies – update and demographics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 578 new citizens have been naturalised during November 2020 	Noted
<p>8. Other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People wishing to attend the Taste of Diversity event should contact Kevin - The ambassadors were thanked for their attendance and staff were also thanked for their efforts during the year. 	Noted
<p>7. Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting of the Multicultural Advisory Committee will be held advised when confirmed by Governance.</p> <p>It is hoped meetings can be held face to face next year.</p>	Noted.