

<b>Subject:</b>	Multicultural Working Group	Page 1 of 6
<b>File No:</b>	CLR/22/60/6	
<b>Document Ref:</b>	D22/156026	
<b>Venue:</b>	TEAMS and Top Ryde Councillors Meeting Room	
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	
<b>Time:</b>	6.00pm	Started at: 6.02pm    Closed at: 7.35pm
<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		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	
	x	Rose Torrosian	Community Representative	
x		Kevin Pagaddinnimath	Community Representative	
x		Geeta Rani	Community Representative	
	x	Leon Li	Community Representative	
	x	Alberto Machionne	Community Representative	
x		Tony Tang	Community Representative	
x		Raj Raman	Community Representative	
x		Bin Lin	Community Representative	
x		Harvey Ng	Community Representative	
		Kitty Ng	Community Representative	
		Viola Lo	Community Representative	
x		Balu Moothedath	Community Representative	
	x	Neda Jovasevic	Community Representative	
x		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

## Details

## Action

alr	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p><u>Acknowledgment of Country</u></p> <p>Sue Verhoek provided the acknowledgement of country.</p>	Noted
2.	<p><b>Adoption of minutes – 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022</b></p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022 were adopted.</p>	Noted
3.	<p><b>Actions from previous minutes</b></p> <p><u>Provision of information regarding activities – 16 days of activism</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The global campaign to end violence against women and children will be conducted from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022.</li> <li>- Council is partnering with CMRC this year and the Multicultural Ambassadors.</li> <li>- In support of 16 Days of Activism, a social media and community campaign is being undertaken.</li> <li>- The Multicultural Ambassadors have recently undertaken domestic and family violence training designed to equip them with knowledge and skills to support people experiencing domestic and family violence with referral pathways.</li> <li>- A video shoot in five community languages including Hindi, Armenian, Mandarin, Arabic and Korean is being undertaken to promote the campaign to CALD communities. This will be promoted on social media and various websites.</li> <li>- Kevin to advise the Police of the ambassador program so that they can make use of the resources of this group.</li> <li>- A screening of the film the “Dowry Abuse project” will be held on the 08 December 2022 at Events Cinema Ryde. There will also be a Q&amp;A panel after the screening.</li> <li>- All members of the working group will receive an invitation to attend the film screening.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Working group members to be invited to the screening of the Dowry Abuse Project.</p> <p>Kevin to contact the Police to discuss the Multicultural Ambassador Program and it could be of assistance.</p>

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	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workshops will also be conducted by Relationships Australia on building healthy relationships and will be delivered in English, Mandarin and Korean. There will be individual sessions for men and women.</li> <li>- A photoshoot will take place on the 23 November 2022 with male community and civic leaders to Unite and Stand Together to support an end to violence against women and girls.</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b>Community harmony and social cohesion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Lin discussed a Council resolution from the meeting of 25 June regarding supporting the democratic movement in Hong Kong.</li> <li>- A further Council resolution at the meeting of 23 July 2019, is that consultation is undertaken with Ryde’s Australian Chinese community groups for feedback and suggestions for furthering community harmony within the Local Government Area.</li> <li>- Dr Lin requested that the working party suggest to Council that the resolution of the 23 July 2019 is amended to include that community consultation occurs with all residents of Ryde, not just local Chinese community groups.</li> <li>- Dr Lin wants to see harmony and cohesion restored and support provided for the democratic rights of people who move to Ryde against Chinese national interference</li> <li>- Sue Verhoek advised that this matter has been discussed with the former Multicultural Advisory Committee and it was decided that social cohesion and harmony events could be arranged, and that Harmony Day provides an opportunity to build relationships.</li> <li>- Hassib Elias suggested that all groups should work as one group, no matter their background to find harmony and cohesion.</li> <li>- Kevin Pagaddinnimath suggested that democracy is sacrosanct, but this group should not get involved in politics.</li> <li>- Tony Tang invited members of the working group to join the Lunar New Year Committee, as it is very inclusive.</li> <li>- George Wu stated that the group should declare itself an apolitical working group. George stated that this suggestion should be seen, as a simple request to have Council reconsider the issue and this is the working party passing on the message that all residents should be consulted, not just Chinese Australians.</li> <li>- It was suggested to Dr Lin that the request to amend the Council resolution should be taken up by him personally and not through the working group. This was supported by most of the group. It was noted that the Councillors see the comments above, as they receive the minutes.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted</p> <p>This group to take no further action.</p>
5.	<p><b>Recognition of Italian Market Gardens</b></p>	

	Details	Action
	<p>Angelina Bonafacio was welcomed to the meeting and provided the following information regarding recognition of Italian market gardeners in Ryde, as per a Council resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Angelina has been involved with a three-year project to write a book about the Italian migrants of Ryde.</li> <li>- Many early Italian families were market gardeners, retailers and farmers and moved to the Ryde area from the 1860's.</li> <li>- The Council resolution is to investigate recognition of Italian and Chinese market gardens.</li> <li>- It was suggested by Council staff that a memory post is installed with the Italian Migrants of Ryde Committee initially suggesting Coxs Road, as the location.</li> <li>- The Italian Migrants of Ryde Committee hope to have a statue erected (maybe of a farmer and his wife) to represent the Italian agricultural past of the city.</li> <li>- Angelina has asked Council to erect a statue near Goulding Street, but this land is owned by the State Government, so it is not suitable.</li> <li>- Regina Terisi, a descendent of Ross Rocca, has suggested Santa Rosa Park for the statue. This park was once part of Mr Rocca's market garden and the land was donated by the Roccas to be maintained, as a park</li> <li>- The memory post could also be located with the statue at Santa Rosa Park.</li> <li>- Discussions are also being held regarding the possible renaming of the plaza outside North Ryde Library in Coxs Road, North Ryde to Piazza Bietola.</li> <li>- At Macquarie University there is a stone cottage (currently in ruins), which was hand built by early local Italians in dry stone wall. Olive trees and persimmon trees also remain near the site. Council's CEO is currently liaising with the University for the restoration of the ruins.</li> <li>- There will be memory post to recognise the Chinese market gardeners in Waterloo Park.</li> <li>- Balu stated that a second sculpture should be created acknowledging the Darrug people.</li> <li>- Sue mentioned that Council has a Reconciliation Action Working Group, and that any recognition of Aboriginal history needs to be considered by this group.</li> <li>- George doesn't think the Chinese history of the area needs to be included in any recognition of the Italian migrants and early settlers.</li> <li>- Harvey suggested that following publication of the Italian history book, that Council could make a video of the story of market gardeners.</li> </ul>	
6.	<p><b>MOvember Community Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This event is run in support of men's mental health</li> <li>- Jennie will send the details of the events to be held</li> </ul>	The information was noted.

	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One event planned is a guest speaker on men’s mental health followed by mini golf at Birdies.</li> </ul>	
7.	<p><b>Information and skills building workshops for the CALD communities.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Details will be sent via email and members asked to disseminate the information though their networks.</li> </ul>	Noted
8.	<p><b>Harmony Day 2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The event will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023.</li> <li>- Thoughts/ideas on how to bring the community together should be sent to Jennie.</li> <li>- Harmony Day 2022 was held at Top Ryde Shopping Centre not the Piazza due to inclement weather.</li> <li>- It was suggested that the event could feature a multicultural fashion walk in traditional outfits</li> <li>- Maybe a food festival or music festival</li> <li>- Call it an Aussie Day</li> <li>- Have a dress up day where people can dress in different outfits provided and take photos</li> <li>- Need to get mainstream interaction and integration to show one Australia</li> </ul>	Working group members to send ideas for Harmony Day 2023 to Jennie
9.	<p><b>Citizenship Ceremonies – demographics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At the Citizenship Ceremony held on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022, the top five countries of origin included:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India, 20% of new citizens</li> <li>• Philippines, 11.5% of new citizens</li> <li>• China, 10%, of new citizens</li> <li>• Iran, 10% of new citizens</li> <li>• Pakistan, 5% of new citizens</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	The information was noted
10	<p><b>General Business</b></p> <p>The following upcoming events were mentioned”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lunar New Year will be held on the 04 February2023 - Year of the Rabbit</li> <li>- Tony Tang will issue an invitation to different groups to attend and take part on Committee. All members of this group are welcome to join committee.</li> <li>- Lunar New Year Committee needs a secretary/treasurer, please contact Tony or Roseanna if you are interested.</li> <li>- Rotary Carols on the Common will be held on the 18 December 2022 at North Ryde Common.</li> </ul>	Noted

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**Details**

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9.	<b>Next meeting</b> The next meeting is scheduled for 9th February 2023 6:00pm - 7.30pm in the Committee Room – Level 1A Pope St, Ryde and via TEAMS	Noted
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