

Subject:	Multicultural Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 4
File No:	CLR/07/8/101/1/8	
Document Ref:	D21/25679	
Venue:	Via MS Teams meeting	
Date:	Thursday 25 th February 2021	
Time:	6.00pm	Started at: 6.00pm Closed at: 7.20pm
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
x		Councillor Trenton Brown	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
		Councillor Peter Kim	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
		Councillor Roy Maggio	Councillor representative	City of Ryde
		Dr Felix Lo	Community Representative	
		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	
x		William Seung	Community Representative	
x		Kevin Pagaddinnimath	Community Representative	
		Aurelia Rolman	Community Representative	
		Kate Snailham	Community Representative	
		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	
		Tony Tang	Community Representative	
		William Ho	Community Representative	
x		Dr Lin Bin	Community Representative	
x		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

Details	Action
<p>1. Welcome, Apologies and Introductions</p> <p>Clr Yedelian welcomed those in attendance.</p> <p>Those in attendance and apologies are as above.</p> <p>Clr Yedelian asked Jonathan to chair the meeting as he was unable to access the agenda.</p> <p>Jonathan provided an acknowledgement of Country.</p> <p>Hassib advised he would need to leave the meeting to attend a church service following the death of his sister in law.</p>	Noted.
<p>2. Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26th November 2020 were confirmed.</p> <p>Hassib asked for a further breakdown of the statistics from the Citizenship Ceremony. Jonathan will send through this information.</p>	Noted.
<p>4. IMPACT OF COVID – update on COVID restrictions and use of Council facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From 12th February 2021, new COVID limits for events were announced. - Since then, COVID restrictions have changed again and Jonathan will send the latest updates to everyone - Jonathan is on a working party which will help provide information about the COVID vaccine to CALD communities. - He will also send this information to members of this committee so they can disseminate it through their communities. - Alice noted that information will need to be provided to international students and others to inform them they can be vaccinated free of charge. 	The information was noted.
<p>5. Guest Speaker – The Men’s Table (men’s support group)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The guest speaker, Ben Hughes, was not able to attend but Jonathan provided an update as follows: - The focus of the group is wellbeing and suicide prevention - Men report higher levels of loneliness than women - A lot of depression in men is caused by work stress - The men’s table group meet for a meal and drink and discuss what is happening in their lives - They get together on a regular basis and use a prescriptive manner for conducting conversations 	The information was noted.

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	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They have a diversity of life experiences and they talk about feelings not beliefs. - It is not about ideology - The group would like to set up a Men’s Table in Ryde and would like to see diversity of culture represented - A meeting will be held on 22nd March 2021 where people can find out about the initiative - Although men experience some things in common eg parenthood, it takes on different perspectives when different cultural backgrounds are included. - Jonathan will send through the link to the initial meeting. - There is a cost which covers the meal. - People can book to attend through the link 	
6.	<p>Guest Speaker – City of Ryde inclusive parks design</p> <p>Rob Parsonson from Council’s Parks Team provided the following information :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Since 2019, Council has used a State Govt guideline to make sure the children’s playgrounds it provides are inclusive. - Now trying to make all parks and sports fields inclusive - Looking to this group for information about barriers to different groups in using playing fields and other areas - Strategies being developed for the next twenty years - Staff would like to put questions to the CALD community and its reps to ensure that open space and facilities are open and inclusive to all - Have looked at data at a state level as it isn’t available at a local level - In City of Ryde, most popular activities are well attended by all groups given the state average and the participation rate is often higher than state average - Concerned with the population groups that are often underrepresented in structured sport– eg females, people over 65, low socio economic groups, disabled, people from CALD backgrounds. - Need to address the barriers of constraint eg personal health barriers, social barriers, facility barriers – due to design, environmental barriers, how well treed areas are, do they encourage incidental activity? - Council has the ability to reduce some of the constraints through direct or indirect approaches - Eg could offer low impact sports, low cost programs. - Safar noted that there are few dedicated walking tracks – most are shared and it is dangerous for walkers when they have to share with cyclists - Maybe include bike committee in this discussion - Could Committee members discuss this issue with their contacts and provide Rob with responses by the end of March - Jonathan to send Rob the contact details of the Committee members 	<p>The information was noted</p>
7.	<p>Council initiatives with CALD communities</p> <p>Multicultural ambassador program – update CMRC. Kevin advised:</p>	

Details	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Taste of Diversity event in December 2020 was well attended. - Politicians and multicultural ambassadors attended - CMRC has opened an office in Top Ryde and is setting up a roster so the ambassadors can begin assisting people. - Also working with ambassadors towards Harmony Day (20th March) – performances, stories, cooking events etc - Clr Yedelian thanked all involved with the Taste of Diversity event - There are a number of languages supported by the ambassadors - In future, MAC members are to be invited to all events such as the Taste of Diversity event. <p>Make a stand against racism</p> <p>Alice provided the following update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pamphlet has been completed - Will continue the campaign to raise awareness on campus as students return - COR is encouraged to support the “racism not welcome” program which puts up street signs stating racism is not welcome - Both the “racism not welcome” program and “welcoming cities program” were considered by Council at its meeting of 23rd February 2021. - At Council’s September 2020 meeting, Council adopted the “unity over fear” program and agreed to seek support to have 100,000 sign a petition decrying anti-Chinese sentiment - Contact to be made with Steve Khouw of the Chinese Australian Forum. - He is to be asked for an update on the petition and to address the next meeting of this committee. 	
<p>8. Working Parties</p> <p>Harmony Day</p> <p>There will be two events held for Harmony Day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There will be a breakfast for community organisations and community leaders on 19th March 2021 and a virtual event held on 20th March 2021. - Attendance to the breakfast is by invitation only - Harmony Day on 20th March will be a virtual event with three x 30 min segments. Looking at stories, conversations and performances which relate to belonging. - People from community organisations taking part. Will be on Facebook etc 	<p>The information was noted.</p>
<p>9. Citizenship Ceremonies – update and demographics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 531 new citizens have been naturalised during January 2021 	<p>Noted</p>

	Details	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The most common nationalities for new citizens are China, India, South Korea, Philipines and Iran - Clr Yedelian asked that the members of this Committee and ambassadors be asked to attend the Citizenship Ceremonies. - Jonathan to discuss with Michelle. 	
8.	<p>Other business</p> <p><u>International Womens Day#ChoosetoChallenge Forum</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will be held on 13th March 2021 at North Ryde School of Arts - Invite will be sent stating the speakers who have been confirmed - There is a strong multicultural background to the speakers <p><u>Face to Face meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crisis Management Team will advise the conditions for recommencing face to face committee meetings - A request through the relevant Director will be made by Sue Verhoek <p><u>Men’s Shed event</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On 17th April 2021, the Men’s Shed will be conducting an event – an invite will be sent to all members of this committee 	Noted
7.	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting of the Multicultural Advisory Committee will be held on 27th May 2021</p>	Noted.