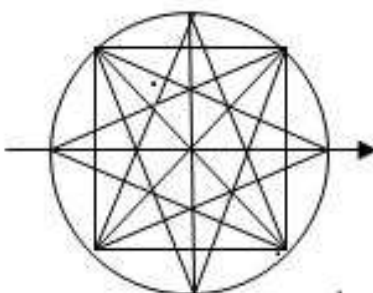


Chairs:

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Standing Committee of the Communities' Council on Ethnic Issues (Eastern Region)

Inc.

Reg. No. A0017562S

Minutes

Friday, December 7, 2018

**Whitehorse Community Centre, Level 1 Conference Room,
79 Mahoneys Road, Forest Hill.**

1. **Welcome** – Cynthia and Sam welcomed MSC members and guests.2. **Present**

Dilnaz Billimoria	Interfaith network
Iresha Buthgamnwa	ECLC, Community Development Coordinator
Gitta Clayton	Links – CHBC, Community Engagement Coordinator
Leigh Gilmore	Sheriff Office Eastern, Sheriff Officer – Koori and Multicultural Liaison
Marilyn Gurry	CCOEI
Kate Jeffery	Link Health and Community, Senior Research and Planning Officer
Rose Juan	Latrobe Community Health Services, Community Development
Helen Jurcevic	Women's Friendship Group Inc
Sam Navarria	CCOEI
Madeleine Parker	DET, Senior Project Officer EAL
James Thangman	ZCA
Bwe Thay	Swinburne University. CCOEI
Cynthia Shaw	CCOEI
Sui Ting Tse	CCOEI, President
Clary Verbunt	Dutch Community, CCOEI
Zhera Yalcin	Kara House, Case Worker
Apologies	
Sally Brooks	MIC, Strategic Engagement Coordinator
Julie Conan-Davies	Swinburne University, AMEP Coordinator
Krishiani Dassanayake	CCOEI
Gina Etienne	Eastern Health, Manager Consumer Community
Belinda Haydon	Link Health and Community, Community Partnerships Officer
Saba Irfan	Manningham Women's Friendship Group
Margeaux Loos	ATO, Migrant Education
Dr Helen Forbes-Mewett	Monash University, Senior Lecturer and Researcher
Mohit Gupta	Swinburne University of Technology
Alex Mills	Link Health and Community, Opening Doors Coordinator
Carole Pondevie-Lay	Melbourne Polytechnic
Barbara Reeckman	Melbourne Polytechnic, AMEP, Pathways Guidance Coordinator,
Vicki Selimi	DHS, Centrelink, Multicultural Services Officer
Johnny Tran	Victoria Police MLO
Chris Walsh	ECLC, Director Partnerships and Community Development

3. **Minutes MSC November 2018** - moved Kate Jeffery, seconded Madelaine Parker. Accepted.
4. **Business Arising** - Incorporated in the agenda.
5. **Correspondence.** Information circulated via email and noted at the meeting:
6. **Meeting focus: 2019 MSC calendar of meetings, events and forums.**
MSC members suggested meeting topics and forums/events for the MSC 2019 calendar – see draft calendar. The topics are not in any order of importance and the listing refers to date order only.

MSC CALENDAR:

The MSC Calendar is a dynamic living document that changes/expands over the course of the year due to circumstances such as emerging urgent topics or the availability of speakers/subject matter experts. The latest version of the calendar is attached to the minutes of meetings and sent out once a month. Relevant international multicultural events (such as Refugee Week) will now be featured below the calendar.

MSC Calendar for 2019

MSC meeting dates	Meeting focus	Forums/functions/events dates and working groups
04 Jan	No meeting	
01 Feb	Humanitarian settlement services - focus on Victoria & Eastern Metropolitan Region: overview of services; recent changes and data on new arrivals (country of birth, ethnicity, faith, gender, age, etc.), who is settling in the Eastern Region, and where, what are their needs and aspirations? Tanya De Mel, Manager Operations and Practice, AMES.	
01 March	Indigenous Welcome and Traditions Explained: what is a Welcome Ceremony, who can officiate, what is the difference between a Welcome Ceremony and an Acknowledgement of Country, what is the correct wording to use when making a speech etc. The MSC meeting focus will lead into the Mullum Mullum CCOEI Harmony Day celebration planned for Saturday 16 th March.	Harmony Day events – Mullum Mullum and CCOEI Harmony Day Celebration. (Working Group: Chris; Heather; Gitta; Felicity, Leigh, Bwe and Cynthia). Speakers, participants and activities to be explored by the Steering Committee. <u>Venue:</u> Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place. <u>Date:</u> Saturday 16 th March.
05 April	Social Cohesion – Scanlon Report Suggested presenter: Professor Andrew Markus or a member of his research team; Scanlon Foundation representative? TBA	
03 May	Law Week: Human Rights with a focus on CALD: Suggested presenters: Human Rights Law Centre/Victoria Legal Aid, ECLC, Law Institute of Victoria. Proposed focus: Family Violence. Suggested involvement by Vic Police FV Unit and a local project such as Centre for Holistic Health. TBA	
07 June	Refugee Week Event will replace the normal MSC Meeting <u>Venue:</u> Willis Room, Whitehorse Civic Centre 397 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading A focus on: Tracing refugee families through the Red Cross. Suggested presenter: Ivana Demasi	

	Refugee stories, song, dance and crafts TBA	
01 July	No meeting	
02 Aug	Homelessness. The Winter Shelter Project (Gitta Clayton) Suggested additional presenters: Elijah Care Uniting Wesley. TBA	
06 Sept	Overseas supported initiatives: The Hope Project – Thai/Burma Border (Gitta) Women's Friendship Group – the Cambodia children's project (Helen J) Other projects - TBA	
04 Oct	MSC Meeting & CCOEI Annual General Meeting Venue: Willis Room, Whitehorse Civic Centre 397 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading Victoria Police – Youth Initiatives TBA	Youth Education Training and Employment forum and expo. A separate Eastern Region Event. Steering Committee to be set up. TBA
02 Nov	Safety and the environment with a focus on CALD: flood, fire, water (swimming) awareness and behaviour. Essential services (MFB, SES, Fisheries). Concerns for new migrants who are unaware of the law/environmental dangers; OR gambling and CALD MSC review of 2019 and plan 2020 activity.	
06 Dec	Planning, review and celebration: Finalize 2020 MSC Calendar. End of year celebration.	

Other MSC Calendar Topics suggested: Emerging communities in the EMR; people seeking asylum and Temporary Protection Visa (TPV) holders; Refugee Health Nurse Service.

Word special days & local events to note: (relevant to the work of the MSC for 2019)

- **21 March:** Harmony Day (also the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination)
- **13-19 May:** Law Week Victoria
- **21 May:** World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
- **20 June:** World Refugee Day
- **10 October:** World Homeless Day
- **16 November:** International Day for Tolerance
- **25 November:** International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- **3 December:** International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- **10 December:** Human Rights Day
- **18 December:** International Migrants Day

7. Reports

Interfaith (Dilnaz Billimoria)

Vic State Interfaith Conference - Dilnaz spoke about some of the issues discussed at the conference. The Keynote Speaker: Reverend Tim Costello, Spokesman & Director Alliance for Gambling Reform & Chief Advocate of World Vision Australia – spoke about gambling prevention. Gambling continues to be a problem in many CALD communities.

Swinburne University (Bwe Thay)

Swinburne Information Session for South Sudanese young people: pathways to further education on Saturday 8th December, 1:30-5:00pm. Expected over 200 guests. Bwe said that Swinburne is able to tailor similar programs for other new and emerging communities.

Manningham Women's Friendship Group (Helen Jurcevic)

The Women's Friendship Group received a Community Award from City of Manningham; Success with advocacy: Teresia – a member previously from Kenya, finally granted permanent residence in Australia. (Helen provided additional documents about IELTS for distribution). Several members spoke about the issues of failing IELTS and repeat tests being undertaken and a lack of consistency in the results. Members congratulated Helen on her advocacy on behalf of Teresia.

8. **Initiatives and innovations (for noting)** – incorporated in the draft 2019 MSC calendar.
9. **End of year celebration** – to acknowledge the work of the MSC and to celebrate MSC members for their input and contributions over the year.
10. **Next MSC Meeting: Friday 1st February 2019, 9.30 –12.00.**
 - Venue:** Conference Room, Level 1, Whitehorse Community Resource Centre, 79 Mahoney's Rd, Forest Hill.
 - Focus:** Humanitarian settlement services - Victoria & the Eastern Metropolitan Region: overview of services; recent changes and data on new arrivals (country of birth, ethnicity, faith, gender, age, etc.) Who is settling in the Eastern Region, where, what are their needs and aspirations? Tanya De Mel, Manager Operations and Practice, AMES.

NOTES: (1) For past and current CCOEI and MSC documents, including meeting papers and guest presentations, visit www.CCOEI.org.au **(2)** To contact Cynthia Shaw or Sam Navarria on matters relating to the MSC please use chair.msc@gmail.com