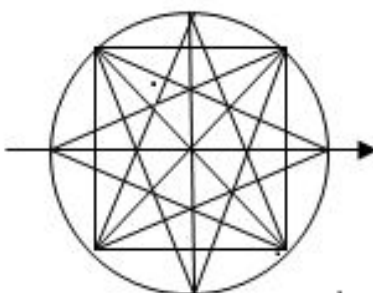


Chairs:

Sam Navarria: Mob: 0432 975 558

Cynthia Shaw: Mob: 0434 080 977



P O Box 94

Forest Hill VIC 3131

Email: chair.msc@gmail.com**Website:** www.ccoei.org.au**MIGRANT SETTLEMENT COMMITTEE (Eastern Region)**Standing Committee of the Communities' Council on Ethnic Issues (Eastern Region)
Inc.

Reg. No. A0017562S

Minutes

Friday, March 3, 2017

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

Dilnaz Billimoria	Whitehorse Interfaith Network
Sandy Ashton	Eastern Health, Diversity Coordinator
Jemima Bannink	Sheriff's Office, Sheriff's Aboriginal Liaison Officer
Iresha Butngamwa	ECLC, Community Development Coordinator
Emma Chege	CCOEI, Treasurer
Michael Collins	YMCA, Manningham
Chris Cosgriff	CCOEI
Heather Cosgriff	CCOEI
Krishiani Dassanaate	CCOEI
Helen Forbes-Mewett	Monash University, Senior Lecturer and Researcher
Leigh Gilmore	Sheriff Office Eastern, Koori and Multicultural Liaison
Dianne Godfrey	DHS, MSO
Suzi Hayes	Knox City Council, Multicultural Communities Officer
Kate Jeffery	Link Health and Community, Senior Research & Planning Officer
Helen Jurcevic	Women's Friendship Group Inc.
Teena Lee	EH Child and Youth Mental Health, Mental Health Promotion Officer
Margeaox Loos	ATO, Migrant Program Manager
Tina Mifsud	NEAMI National, CRSW Community Rehab Support Worker
Sam Navarria	CCOEI
Andree O'Donnell	AMES Settlement
Saarah Ozeer	Bounce, Refugee Youth Mentoring Program, Director
Madeleine Parker	Department of Education and Training, Senior Project Officer,
Suresh Ramachandrai	ECLC, Manager CD Partnership
Mhisti Rele	Opening Doors; CCOEI
Cynthia Shaw	CCOEI
Bwe Thay	Swinburne University, AMEP Pathway Counsellor; CCOEI
Lyudmila Theodore	Holmesglen, Teacher
Sui Ting Tse	CCOEI
Clary Verbunt	Dutch Community, CCOEI
Sonia Vignjevic	ECLC, Director Partnerships and Community Development
Nicki Vlahakis	Counsellor/Advocate ECASA
Zehra Yalcin	Kara House, Case Worker

Apologies

Leonie Burnham	CCOEI, LMCC
Gitta Clayton	AMES Australia, Volunteer Tutor Program Coordinator
Glenis Crocker	CCOEI
Lillian De Bortoli	Swinburne University of Technology, Research Fellow
Marilyn Gurry	CCOEI
Belinda Haydon	Link Health and Community, Community Development Officer
Josef Jin	Chinese Family Services, Coordinator
Digna Libera	Holmesglen
Alex Mills	Opening Doors
Elizabeth Sidiropoulos	VicPol
Sarah Tanner	NEAMI, Mental Health Worker
Rebecca Wickes	Monash University, Associate Professor
Clive Williams	VicPol

Guests

Mick Woiwod	Historian and novelist
Vincent Peters	MMIGP, Elder
Rod Neason	Video

- 2. Minutes MSC February 3, 2017.** Moved Cynthia Shaw, seconded Clary Verbunt. Accepted.
- 3. Business Arising.**
Incorporated in the agenda
- 4. Correspondence.** Various items of information circulated electronically.
- 5. Meeting focus – Indigenous history and culture: from the perspective of historian and novelist.** Mick Woiwod, assisted by Vincent Peters.
Welcome: Sam welcomed guest speaker Mick Woiwod. Mick was assisted by Uncle Vincent Peters. (Rod Neason kindly recorded the event on video and Heather Cosgriff took photographs of the event).

Chris Cosgriff introduced Mick Woiwod.

A past founding president of the Nillumbik Reconciliation Group (currently its Patron), Mick is also a co-founder of the Andrew Ross Museum in Kangaroo Ground. Mick first commenced writing in 1991 when he and his wife Margaret lived on a bush-block in Bend of Islands on the north bank of the Yarra. Mick now lives in North Eltham with his daughter. Mick is working on his 21st book.

Mick presented the History of Coranderrk Aboriginal Station set up in 1863. Uncle Vincent Peters also kindly included some history of his own family to provide context around personal experiences of being an Aboriginal man living in Victoria. Mick spoke about William Barak (1824-1903) a charismatic man who stands tall in history amongst his fellow Aboriginal people. The fascinating and absorbing story included information about the Acclimatisation Society of Victoria and the devastating decisions leading to the population of the Victorian bush-land with a variety of creatures such as deer, rabbits, hares, pheasants and salmon. (*As we now know, these creatures were later found to have caused enormous harm to Australia's natural fauna*). Coranderrk was developed by the Aboriginal community into one of the most successful stations in the land and was the envy of its neighbours. The Acclimatisation Society made several attempts to close Coranderrk, however William Barak had powerful friends and fought back leading a number of deputations to parliament house.

The story of Coranderrk and William Barak can be heard in Mick's own words through the video which can be found on Facebook on this

link <https://www.facebook.com/1272514826166673/videos/1278137062271116/>

A list of Mick's works can be found on this link: http://www.ccoei.org.au/docs/Mick_synopsis.pdf

6. **MSC 2017 Calendar** – The calendar is on track. The proposed delivery of forums/events for 2017 have been amended from the latest input.

MSC 2017 Calendar

MSC meeting dates	Meeting focus	Forums/functions/events dates and working groups	International Multicultural events Calendar
01 Jan	No meeting		
03 Feb	The Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria (ECCV): overview, achievements over the past year, and priorities in 2017. Marion Lau, Deputy Chair ECCV.		February 1-7 United Nations Interfaith Harmony Week
03 March	Indigenous history and culture: from the perspective of historian and novelist. Mick Woivod	Harmony Day events.	March 21: <u>Harmony Day</u>
07 April	CALD from Burma: a focus on needs and services. Current and future services and innovations. Speakers TBC; AND Celebrate Diversity at the MSC: bring a plate		April 7 – World Health Organisation <u>World Health Day</u>
05 May	The interfaith network: its achievements, and challenges. Speakers TBC OR The Australian Multicultural Foundation (AMF) in 2017: priorities, challenges and key events (AMF Executive Director, Dr Hass Dellal AO)	Family violence forum: theme – culturally sensitive approaches. Working group: Sandy; Saarah O; Sarah S, Mhisti; Judy M, Suresh; Leigh; Iresha; Nicki Vlahakis, Leonie.	May 21 - <u>World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development</u> ,
02 June	CALD from Syria – a focus on needs and services. Current and future services and innovations. Speaker TBC		June 20 – UN <u>World Refugee Day</u> , June 26 – UN <u>Day - Support of Victims of Torture</u>
01 July	No meeting		
04 Aug	Immigrant Settlement in regional Victoria: What works in Greater Shepparton? Researchers: Helen Forbes-Mewett and Rebecca Wickes, Monash University.	Refugee health forum: theme – health literacy mental health Working group: Dianne; Kate; Jacky, Helen, Lilian.	
01 Sept	CALD from Iran; Afghanistan and Iraq: focus on needs and services. Current and future services and innovations. Speakers TBC		
06 Oct	CALD from South Sudan: needs and services. Current and future services and innovations Speakers TBC. CCOEI AGM	CALD employment, training and community engagement forum “My choice My life” Working group: Bwe; Saarah; Suzie; Suresh; Leigh; Iresha, Krishiani, Mohit,	October 17- <u>International Day for the Eradication of Poverty</u> , UN calendar
03 Nov	Australian Refugee and Humanitarian Program 2017 - 2018: Community views, current challenges, and future directions. Asher Hirsch, Policy Officer, Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA). MSC review of 2017 activity.		November 16 - <u>International Day for Tolerance</u> November 25 - <u>International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women</u> ,
01 Dec	Finalize 2018 MSC Calendar.		Dec 3 rd : <u>International Day for People with a disability</u> http://www.idpwd.com.au/

Other areas:

- Meet and greet your new neighbours and get to know your changing community.
- Human Rights Law Centre – focus on CALD;

- Cultural responsiveness of LGAs in the Eastern Metropolitan Region.
- Community safety and security.

7. Reports

ATO (Margeaux Loos)

Margeaux, who is Migrant Education, Community Education and Assistance, Individual Taxpayers Wellbeing Representative, Australian Taxation Office, informed MSC members about the Australian Tax Office Pop-Up events to inform communities about services to assist with taxation requirements. Assistance is available in other languages, as well as via a language line. Written information will be made available and provided to the MSC as soon as possible for distribution. The ATO is working on joint ventures with organisations such as DHS Centrelink. If anyone would like to host a Pop-Up event please contact Margeaux on Jacqueline.Loos@ato.gov.au

Humanitarian Settlement Services, AMES Consortium (Andree O'Donnell)

Working through Box Hill and Dandenong. Two case managers. Now in their new building. Low numbers arriving in the Eastern Region currently. Seeing a great deal of trauma.

Knox City Council (Suzie Hayes)

Multicultural Community Forum "Cultural Diversity across the Generations" Wed 22nd March 2017

Swinburne University (Bwe Thay)

Launch – First Cultural Diversity Charter and World Kitchen event

Swinburne feels strongly about supporting a sense of belonging and appreciation for all. Students and staff come from more than 100 nations, across every continent of the globe.

Link Health (Kate Jeffery)

Will provide links to information on Asylum Seeker situation.

DHS Centrelink (Dianne Godfrey)

Community talks re Childcare Benefits to playgroups. Demonstrating how to get online. Also involved in many internal Harmony Day celebrations across the organisation.

CCOEI (Mhisti Rele; Cynthia Shaw ;)

Mhisti attended the Carers Forum at the Box Hill Town hall. The main identified gap being that many people from a CALD background do not know what a Carer is. They see it as a family duty not a role. Also there are many young people as carers who are not being reached and do not receive assistance.

Cynthia – informed that at next MSC meeting, we will celebrate diversity: bring a plate and wear a 'cultural' item.

Next MSC Meeting: Friday 7 April, 9.30 –12.00.

Venue: Conference Room, Level 1, Community Resource Centre, 79 Mahoney's Road, Forest Hill

Focus: Communities from Myanmar: challenges and issues, services, service gaps and some recommendations.

Following the MSC meeting there will be a celebrating diversity lunch: bring a plate to share.

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