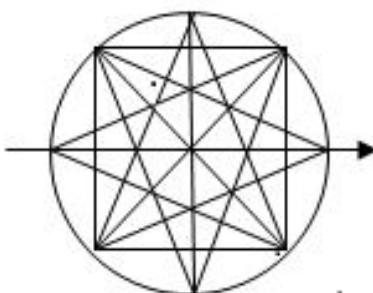


Chairs:

Sam Navarria: Mob: 0432 975 558

Cynthia Shaw: Mob: 0466 157 906



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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, October 5, 2018

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

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

David Atkinson	Box Hill Institute, Academic Manager
Dilnaz Billimoria	Interfaith network
Sally Brooks	MIC, Strategic Engagement Coordinator
Gitta Clayton	Links – CHBC, Community Engagement Coordinator
Chris Cosgriff	CCOEI, MMIGP
Heather Cosgriff	CCOEI, MMIGP
Glenis Crocker	CCOEI Life Member
Krishiani Dassanayake	CCOEI
Dr Helen Forbes-Mewett	Monash University, Senior Lecturer and Researcher
Leigh Gilmore	Sheriff Office Eastern, Sheriff Officer – Koori and Multicultural Liaison
Marilyn Gurry	CCOEI
Judy McDougall	MIC
Emily Ma	Chinese Parents Special Support Network
Jasmina Mulugeta	Foundation House, Eastern region Team Coordinator
Sam Navarria	CCOEI
Vicki Selimi	DHS, Centrelink, Multicultural Services Officer
Cynthia Shaw	CCOEI
Bwe Thay	Swinburne University. CCOEI
Sui Ting Tse	CCOEI, President
Clary Verbunt	Dutch Community, CCOEI
Apologies	
Marisa Bryant	Career Seekers, Advisor
Iresha Buthgamuwa	ECLC, Community Development Coordinator
Rick Comfort	DHS Centrelink MSO
Julie Conan-Davies	Swinburne University, AMEP Coordinator
Geoff DeYoung	DHS, MSO
Gina Etienne	Eastern Health, Manager Consumer Community
Twanny Farrugia	CCOEI
Marg Greenhalf	Box Hill Institute
Saba Irfan	Women's Friendship Group Inc
Kate Jeffery	Link Health and Community, Senior Research and Planning Officer
Helen Jurcevic	Women's Friendship Group Inc
Margeaux Loos	ATO, Migrant Education
Jenny Mitchell	Whitehorse/ Manningham Libraries, CALD Branch Manager
Katrina Myers	Box Hill Institute, Program Manager AMEP & SEE
Madeleine Parker	DET, Senior Project Officer EAL

Barbara Reeckman	Melbourne Polytechnic, AMEP, Pathways Guidance Coordinator,
Rosemary Sheehan	Whitehorse Council, Diversity Officer
Elizabeth Sidiropoulos	Victoria Police MLO
Johnny Tran	Victoria Police MLO
Chris Walsh	ECLC, Director Partnerships and Community Development
Rebecca Wickes	Monash University, Associate Professor
Emma Wilkinson	City of Boroondara, Social Inclusion Policy and Project Officer
Guest	Con Pagonis, Acting EO, ECCV

3. **Minutes MSC September 2018**
4. Amendment to September meeting minutes: add Marilyn Gurry to attendance list. Minutes moved Cynthia Shaw, seconded Sui Ting Tse. Accepted.
5. **Business Arising**
Incorporated in the agenda.
6. **Correspondence.** Information circulated via email and at the meeting including: International Metropolis Conference “New thinking on migration starts here” Conference in Sydney 29 October-2 November 2018 <https://metropolis2018.org.au/>
7. **Meeting focus: New and emerging Communities in the EMR**
Speaker: Con Pagonis (A/EO), Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria (ECCV).
(Note: Kris Pavlidis, Chair ECCV, apology).

Con recalled speaking at the MSC when he was with the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), and referred to his work with immigration over many years. He retired 3 years ago, but is temporarily assisting the ECCV in the full time position of Acting Executive Officer. Normally, he volunteers at the ECCV and is responsible for producing the ECCV newsletter, a monthly wrap up of news across Victoria. The letter is read widely across Australia by government and non-government agencies. He invited members to subscribe to the newsletter which accepts information about events and forums members wish to promote. Con will provide a link to the newsletter which will be circulated to MSC.

Con gave an overview of the ECCV, the peak advocacy body for ethnic communities established in the mid-70s and which has over 200 organisations. Con noted that over the last 10 years in relation to multiculturalism there has been a political leadership vacuum at the federal level that has required community organisations like the ECCV to provide their own leadership on policy. The ECCV, and FECCA, have taken on the leadership policy role and have worked in the policy sphere in areas like refugee health, family violence, elder rights, language resources and services, gambling resources, and others. He noted that where a strong policy platform exists, such as disability in ethnic communities, there is no need for the ECCV to play a leading policy role which is fulfilled by ADEC. Con referred to the ECCV website where ECCV policy development and policy positions over the years is evidenced.

Con noted the perception that the ECCV is seen as an ‘older’ organisation, and that the ECCV must remain relevant to its members (CCOEI is a member). The ECCV undertakes a number of projects and events each year. The ECCV is putting effort in generational change, and interested in emerging groups, and wants to engage more and more at the grassroots level. He noted that as the peak body, ECCV advocacy work is only as good as its links to grassroots, and he encouraged organisations to work with the ECCV for a stronger voice in multicultural affairs. Kris Pavlidis, Chair of the ECCV, is interested in progressing this area and is undertaking discussions with groups, including CCOEI, on forums/events in 2019 on issues specific to the area and those of global concern.

Con noted some events on the ECCV calendar:

- The *Walter Lippmann Memorial Oration* hosted annually in honour of the ECCV founding member, *Walter Lippmann*. The *oration* pays homage to migrants, human rights, and support for cultural diversity. This year the speaker was Julian Burnside, a respected Australian lawyer and

human rights advocate best known for his condemnation of the Federal Government's off-shore processing regime of asylum seekers;

- Conference every two years – a policy development conference in Hobart in 2019
- ECCV AGM early December (15 members on the board and positions are for 2 years with voting taking place every second year – 2018 is not a voting year) - only organisation members are eligible to vote; Con encouraged emerging communities to nominate for board positions and to network support for those positions.

Some 'new' areas receiving special focus by the ECCV:

- Work on the theme of indigenous and refugees;
- racism between older established and newly arrived communities (animosity displayed by older migrant communities to newer communities), and racism between newly arrived communities. The issue of racism has gone beyond institutional racism and it is time to look at addressing racism issues at the interracial level. MSC members also noted the intra-racial racism which is not racism but something akin to class, religious and other differences. Chris Cosgriff suggested that people should be more careful about the language used and drop the word 'racism' and use the word 'culture' instead). Con noted the appointment of Mr. Chin Tan to the role of Race Discrimination Commissioner.
- He noted for special attention a new program by the ECCV, the *Young People mentoring program* supporting young people to speak at conferences, forums, how politics works, etc.

Con mentioned the Celebration of the Piers at Port Melbourne where many migrants first arrived in Victoria.

Con reminded MSC members to subscribe to the ECCV Newsletter. He thanked the MSC for the opportunity to present. In place of Kris Pavlidis, he presented the Inaugural 2018 CCOEI Excellence Awards.

8. MSC 2018 Calendar

The 2018 Calendar is on track. The calendar is flexible, driven by MSC input.

MSC 2018 Calendar

MSC meeting dates	Meeting focus	Forums/functions/events dates and working groups	International Multicultural events Calendar
01 Jan	No meeting		
02 Feb	Settlement services and programs - focus on Victoria & Eastern Metropolitan Region: who is settling in the Eastern Region, and where, what are their needs and aspirations? Sarah Daly, Settlement Senior Manager, AMES; Judy McDougall, Senior Project Officer, MIC.		February 1-7 United Nations Interfaith Harmony Week
02 March	Celebrating harmony and inclusiveness - CALD choir (Karen) and the Mullum Mullum Choir combine to tell stories through song and music. (Working Group members include: Chris; Heather; Gitta; Jasmina and Cynthia). Venue Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place, Ringwood.	Harmony Day events.	March 21: Harmony Day
06 April	Regional Advisory Councils (RAC) of the VMC: <i>RACs progressing the Victorian multicultural agenda - key developments and projects</i> : RAC Commissioner Sonia Vignjevic presented with RAC members James Thangman and Bwe Thay. Helen Forbes-Mewett (apology).		April 7 – World Health Organisation World Health Day
04	The NDIS and CALD communities – access		May 21 - World Day for Cultural

May	and participation in the EMR, and exploring the need for a forum in the EMR. Panel of speakers: Chris Cahill and Sharna Goulding, NDIA; Megan Kearney and Eli Niall (NDIS); ADEC; Sophie Dutertre, (CEH); Olivia Killeen, (ECCV); Emily Ma, Chairperson, Chinese Parents Special Support Network (CPSSN).		Diversity for Dialogue and Development ,
01 June	Adult education and training: progressing social and economic inclusion: AMEP, SEE, Skills First; pre-accredited to accredited training: Rochelle Beatty (unable to attend) Barbara Reeckman (MP) and Sally Brennan (Swinburne University); Karen Sims My Health Record (MHR).		June 20 – UN World Refugee Day , June 26 – UN Day - Support of Victims of Torture
01 July	No meeting		
03 Aug	Cultural responsiveness of LGAs in the Eastern Metropolitan Region – focus on a project. Knox City Council, Joan Pepi, Multicultural Communities Officer. Project: <i>Working in the Multicultural Space</i> Maroondah City Council, Penny Moore, Community Development Officer. Project: <i>Nurturing Partnerships between Sport and Newly Arrived Communities</i> Yarra Ranges Council, Wendy Blakis, Best Start Community Facilitator, & Rakhi Khanna. Project: <i>Stepping stones to service connections and engagement for CALD families</i> .	Working Group(s) for 2nd half of 2018: CALD NDIS access and participation Working Group. First meeting held 10 August 2018. Participating organisations include NDIS, NDIA, CEH, ECCV, ADEC, Link Health and Community, Latrobe Community Health Service, Uniting Care Life Assist, MIC, Neami National and Local Government organisations, others are also welcome to participate on this group.	
07 Sept	Social cohesion in multicultural Australia – stats and stories: findings from qualitative and quantitative research. Speakers from Monash University including Dr Helen Forbes-Mewett		
05 Oct	CCOEI AGM and a focus on emerging CALD groups in Eastern Metropolitan Region.		October 17- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty , UN calendar
02 Nov	Australian Refugee and Humanitarian Program 2019 - 2020: Community views, current challenges, and future directions. Asher Hirsch, Senior Policy Officer, Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA). MSC review of 2018 and plan 2019 activity.	Family violence forum “Living in Two Worlds” Prevention of Family Violence / Refugee Youth Settlement Forum: Date: Tuesday 27 November 2018 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Venue Whitehorse Room, Box Hill Town Hall. Cost: \$25.00 Lunch and Snacks provided. Register at http://BIT.LY/MICYF2018 Or call Judy on 9285 4888. (Partnership between the Migrant Information Centre and CCOEI). We thank Judy McDougall for organising this event.	November 16 - International Day for Tolerance November 25 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women ,

07 Dec	Finalize 2019 MSC Calendar. Some suggestions to date: (a) Human Rights Law Centre – focus on refugees and asylum seekers in offshore processing centres; (b) Victorian Fisheries Authority	<p>2019 Pending working groups:</p> <p>Second Indigenous/Refugee event to celebrate Harmony Day to be held in March 2019. Possible composition of working group: Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place, CHBC, Foundation House & CCOEI</p> <p>Youth services event: This event is held every 2nd year in partnership with Swinburne. Proposed for Oct/Nov 2019 a working group will be set up in the 2nd half of 2019 by Bwe Thay (Convener). Working group possible composition DET Victoria, IMVC, AMEP, Foundation House, ATO, ECLC, MIC, Vic Police and Local Government organisations.</p>	Dec 3 rd : <u>International Day for People with a disability</u> http://www.idpwd.com.au/
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9. Reports

CCOEI/MSC Forums and Events update

Organisations update

1. **Migrant Information Centre (Judy McDougall)** – Tennis project with Tennis Australia: Burmese children taking part. Great success which will culminate in attending major tennis event later in the year.
2. **Hope Project (Gitta Clayton):** report will be available at the next MSC meeting. The Winter Shelter program was very successful in assisting many homeless men.
3. **CPPSN (Emily Ma):** Emily informed the MSC that the **Autism Lanyard** project was successful in being selected for support through the “Pick my Project” online selection event. Emily expressed her thanks to MSC and CCOEI for support.
4. **Interfaith (Dilnaz Billimoria)** – Victorian State Interfaith Conference 18/11. Free access to conference. Dilnaz to provide information to Con for inclusion in the ECCV newsletter.
5. **CCOEI (Cynthia Shaw)**
Data on new and emerging communities from Kelly Alfris – interesting set of figures for EMR cities. Sally Brooks from MIC promised to send data received by MIC from DSS.

VICTORIA'S MULTICULTURAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE.

The state's 2018 Diversity Heroes were recognised at a special ceremony on Wednesday 12 September at Government House. CCOEI and the Migrant Settlement Committee is proud to inform our membership that our nominee, Bwe Thay, received Highly Commended Award in the Emerging Leadership in Multiculturalism Award presented by the Governor of Victoria The Hon Linda Desau AC. [Read more here.](#)

Two other awards of note in our region are:

- Early Childhood Award: The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture Early Years Program
- School Education Award: Croydon Primary School

The Communities' Council on Ethnic Issues (Eastern Region) congratulates all recipients.

CCOEI INAUGURAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Background. For some time the CCOEI Committee of Management has been looking at ways to acknowledge excellence within the ranks of high performing members of the Migrant Settlement Committee (MSC). The CCOEI management committee have decided to unveil a new way of acknowledging excellence in services to migrant and refugee settlement in the eastern region. This award will be known as the [CCOEI Excellence Award](#)

The 2018 winners were presented with their awards at the CCOEI 2018 Annual General Meeting by Mr Bwe Thay (CCOEI Vice President) and Mr Con Pagonis (ECCV Acting EO).

- Gitta Clayton [Read more here](#)
- Jasmina Mulugeta [Read more here](#)

10. Initiatives and innovations (for noting) – none noted.

11. Next MSC Meeting: Friday 2nd November, 2018, 9.30 –12.00.

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

Focus: Australian Refugee and Humanitarian Program 2019 - 2020: Community views, current challenges, and future directions. **Asher Hirsch, Senior Policy Officer, Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA).**

MSC review of 2018 and plan 2019 activity.
My Health Record – Karen Simms

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