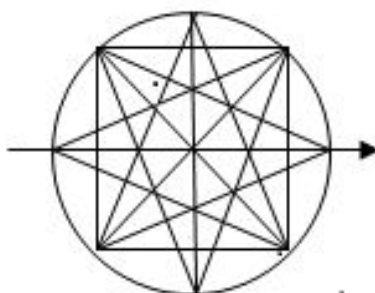


Chairs:

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, September 1, 2017****Whitehorse Community Centre, Level 1 Conference Room,
79 Mahoneys Road, Forest Hill.**1. **Welcome** – Sam welcomed MSC members2. **Present**

Iresha Butngamwa	ECLC, Community Development Coordinator
Dusko Gjucinovski	DSS, MCLO
Dianne Godfrey	DHS, MSO
Marilyn Gurry	CCOEI
Linette Harriot	CMY, Sector Development and Youth Leadership Coordinator
Suzi Hayes	Knox City Council, Multicultural Communities Officer
Helen Jurcevic	Women's Friendship Group Inc
Rupinder Kaur	MIC, Volunteer
Teena Lee	Enjoy Church Mulgrave, Restore Program
Stephen McCarthy	Victoria Police, Community Engagement
Sam Navarria	CCOEI
Saturnino Onyala	MIC, Settlement Support Worker
Madeleine Parker	Department of Education and Training, Senior Project Officer
Barbara Reeckman	Melbourne Polytechnic, AMEP
Gianluigi Rotondo	Monash University PHD Student
Cynthia Shaw	CCOEI
Elizabeth Sidiropoulos	VicPol Eastern Region Multicultural Police Unit MLO
Bwe Thay	Swinburne University
Johnny Tran	Vic Pol MLO
Sui Ting Tse	CCOEI
Betty Wang	LMCC, Volunteer
Zehra Yalcin	Kara House
Apologies	
Chris Cosgriff	CCOEI
Heather Cosgriff	CCOEI
Gitta Clayton	Community
Rayce Coyte	IMVC, National Disability Coordinator Officer
Jen Dunian	Uniting Life Assist, Team Leader Carers Disability
Saba Irfan	Women's Friendship Group Inc
Kate Jeffery	Link Health and Community, Senior Research and Planning Officer
Ellen Kimball	City of Whitehorse, Community Development Officer Diversity
Cindy Kung	Louise Multicultural Community Centre, Program Coordinator

Digna Libera	Holmesglen TAFE, Chadstone & Moorabbin, Campus Manager
Jacqueline Loos (Margeaux)	ATO, Community Education and Assistance
Clary Verbunt	Dutch Community, CCOEI
Guest presenters	
Dr Helen Forbes-Mewett	Monash University, Senior Lecturer and Researcher
Rebecca Wickes	Monash University, Associate Professor

3. Minutes MSC August, 2017.

Moved Cynthia Shaw, seconded Sui Ting Tse. Accepted.

4. Business Arising.

Incorporated in the agenda

5. Correspondence. Information circulated electronically and at the meeting.

Cynthia provided information about the upcoming 30th Birthday Celebration and Annual General Meeting to be held on the 6th October 2017 at the City of Whitehorse Nunawading premises (Willis Room). Copies of the flyer, CCOEI Membership Forms and Committee of Management Nomination Forms circulated. Cynthia noted that there would be a speaker from the Australian-Iranian Society of Victoria, Mr. Bahram Monshat, and also a cultural music performance. The focus of this event is the Iranian community, their culture, their settlement needs and success stories. This event was planned last year as part of the MSC Calendar.

6. Meeting focus: (i) Multicultural bus tours: Inter-ethnic contact in Shepparton; (ii) Population, Migration and Social Inclusion.

Speakers: Dr Helen Forbes-Mewett, Senior Lecturer and Researcher, Monash University; Associate Professor Rebecca Wickes, Monash University.

(i) Shepparton Multicultural bus tours

- Ethnic Council multicultural bus tours
- Helen and Rebecca's bus tour experience and observations
- Positive and negative behaviour
- Impact on hosts

Helen described how they were warmly welcomed by the different hosts:

- Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative
- Turkish Mosque
- Afghan Mosque
- Iraqi Mosque
- Gurdwara Sahib (Sikh temple)

Behaviours included some women at first refusing to wear a scarf. Some inappropriate questions were asked, however the host answered in a very respectful manner. One of the mosques provided a very elaborate meal. The hosts seemed to win over their guests (most were keen to learn). Behaviour changed for the better as the day progressed.

Helen said that as part of their research they would like to speak to people running/hosting other similar events. There was a feeling that not enough work was being done with Australian residents to help them to be more accepting of different groups.



(ii) Population, Migration and Social Inclusion focus program

Rebecca provided a brief overview of the program and a link to the Survey <https://www.accsvic.com/> People from CALD backgrounds were encouraged to participate in the online survey. To assist them the survey has been translated in the top 5 languages. The survey asks questions like: what is it like to live in your local community? Findings from the survey will be used to improve the quality of social cohesion in Melbourne communities.

7. MSC 2017 Calendar – Calendar on track but note changes to the dates of delivery of some events.

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 Woiwod	Harmony Day events.	March 21: <u>Harmony Day</u>
07 April	CALD from Myanmar: a focus on needs and services. Current and future services and innovations. Speaker Simon Sang Hre; AND Celebrate Diversity at the MSC: bring a plate		April 7 – World Health Organisation <u>World Health Day</u>
05 May	The interfaith network: purpose, achievements, and challenges. Dilnaz Billimoria and speakers from various agencies.		May 21 - <u>World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.</u>
02 June	CALD from Syria – settlement needs and services. Speakers: Lowilla Okello, Senior Settlement Support Worker, Refugee and Settlement Services CatholicCare; Fr. Samir Haddad, President of Australian Syrian Charity, Parish Priest of St. Joseph Melkite Catholic Church		June 20 – UN <u>World Refugee Day</u> , June 26 – UN <u>Day - Support of Victims of Torture</u>
01 July	Usually no meeting – Father Samir invited MSC to attend a morning event that brings together the Australian Syrian Charity.		
04 Aug	Refugee and Immigration Legal Centre – Refugee Legal David Manne, Executive Director; Kate Bones, Solicitor and Migration Agent	Refugee health and human rights forum Title: “Awareness First” theme FGM/C and Forced Marriage 11/08/2017. Convened by Cynthia Shaw & Helen Jurcevic. Hosted by: the Women’s Friendship Group (Manningham). Working Group Members: Sonia Vignjevic, Nicki Vlahakis; Dianne Godfrey; Saba Irfan; Clair Butselaar; Emma Chege; Teresia Mutisya (advice by email) and Liz Sidiropoulos.	

		Lillian De Bortoli (Final Report).	
01 Sept	Immigrant Settlement in regional Victoria: What works in Greater Shepparton? Multicultural bus tours: Inter-ethnic contact in Shepparton. Researchers: Dr Helen Forbes-Mewett, Monash University; Associate Professor, Rebecca Wickes, Monash University.	Family violence forum: theme – <i>Gender Equity – A world without Family Violence</i> . To be held on 19 September at the Box Hill Town Hall. Convened by Judy McDougall. Working Group members: Sonia Vignjevic; Randika Wijekoon; Cynthia Shaw; Glenis Crocker; Mhisti Rele; Nicki Vlahakis; Barbara Laug and Johnny Tran (VicPol)	
06 Oct	CALD from Iran - focus on needs and services (as part of CCOEI AGM) CCOEI AGM	CALD Employment and Training Expo 26/10/2017: “My choice My life” Working group: Meeting Chaired by Bwe Thay. Members: Saarah; Rayce; Margeaux; Dianne; Randika; Suzi; Suresh; Iresha; Mohit, Kirsten; Bianca; Sarah and Cynthia.	October 17- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty , UN calendar
03 Nov	Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) annual services consultation on Australia’s refugee policies. Presenter/Facilitator Asher Hirsch, Senior Policy Officer, RCOA MSC review of 2017 activity.		November 16 - International Day for Tolerance November 25 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women .
01 Dec	Finalize 2018 MSC Calendar.		Dec 3 rd : International Day for People with a disability 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.

8. Reports

Forums update

- (a) **Family Violence Forum 2017 (Cynthia Shaw)**. Forum on 19/09. Forum program being finalised.
- (b) **Health Forum 2017 - FGM/C and Forced Marriage forum. (Cynthia Shaw)** held on 11/08, well attended, feedback very positive. Forum report being written and will be launched on the 06/10 at CCOEI 30th Birthday celebrations and AGM. The report will be launched by Inga Peulich.
- (c) **Employment Training and Community Engagement Forum 2017 “My Choice, My Life” (Bwe Thay)**
Scheduled for 26/10, with the working group regularly meeting; many organisations participating.

Organisations update

- (a) **CCOEI AGM (Cynthia Shaw)**: see entry under Correspondence;
- (b) **MIC (Saturnino Onyala)** Update included settlement referrals from AMES, new arrivals are mainly from Syria, Iraq and Myanmar;
- (c) **Centrelink DHS (Dianne Godfrey)** Support recipients of services to access services on line continues. More information on services www.humanservices.gov.au/
- (d) **Victoria Police (Liz Sidiropoulos and Johnny Tran)** VicPol continues its community engagement work in various councils in the east, including Manningham and Monash, e.g. Burmese new arrivals and fire safety (Manningham), and safety outdoors; family violence forum;.
- (e) **DSS (Dusko Gjucinovski)** provided information on DSS case management framework – the service is outcomes focused;
- (f) **Swinburne University (Bwe Thay)** Transition to Higher Education and awareness of what is possible – posters circulated. Two buses have been organised to take students to city campus (Docklands);
- (g) **Women’s Friendship Group (Helen Jurcevic)** Visit to Cambodia and Medical equipment to Cambodia. Helen provided information on her visit to Cambodia - great photographs and stories. *“Cambodia is still recovering from the Khmer Rouge’s brief but destructive reign between 1975 and 1979. Somewhere between 1 and 3 million people (one in four Cambodians) were killed under the regime, and the country’s economy and social structures were devastated”*. Unexploded ordinances are still a very big danger for Cambodians especially in rural regions. *“Past conflicts have also contributed to high rates of disability in the Cambodian population: around one in five disabilities in Cambodia is the result of war or injury from landmines and other unexploded munitions”* 100s of Kgs of donated goods – medical supplies, clothing, and health products - have been sent to Cambodia to assist children, particularly girls, affected by landmines (the Centre in Battumbung is funded by Caritas). For more information visit <http://www.caritas.org.au/learn/countries/Cambodia>

9. Initiatives and innovations (for noting) – Nil

10. Next MSC Meeting: Friday 3rd November, 9.30 –12.00.

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

Focus: Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) annual services consultation on Australia’s refugee policies.

Presenter/Facilitator Asher Hirsch, Senior Policy Officer, RCOA.

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