



## MINUTES

### CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on 22 November 2017 at 6.30pm at Caroline Springs Library

**Present:** Cr Bob Turner, Mayor, City of Melton  
Tony Ball, Acting Coordinator Community Capacity, Melton City Council  
Essan Dileri, Intercultural Development Officer, Melton City Council  
Lillian Campos, Service Coordination Officer, Melton City Council  
Ajay Pasupulate Australian Multicultural Association  
Elaine Lacey, Australian Philippines Association  
Abraham Jongroor, VICSEG New Futures  
Gary Verma, Indian Community Sri Durga Temple  
Kubir Khanal, Bhutanese Community Melton  
Lyn Harding, Neighbourhood Programs Team Leader, Melton City Council  
Melissa Baker, Neighbourhood Program Officer, Melton City Council  
Dave Kwame Arthur, Stepping Up Consortium  
Iyas Harb, Melton Muslim Community  
Shaji Pope, Utsav Malayalee Samaj  
Mashair Abdalla, South Sudanese Community Melton  
Gatkuoth Kueth, South Sudanese Community Melton  
Hammam Dewanyang, South Sudanese Community Melton  
Akow Aflucee, South Sudanese Community Melton  
Sana Zaman, Melton Interfaith Network

**Chairperson:** Cr Bob Turner, Mayor, City of Melton

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**1. Welcome**

Chairperson began the meeting with Melton City Council acknowledgment of country.

**2. Introductions**

Chairperson welcomed Committee members and non-CALDAC attendees and requested everyone to briefly introduce themselves.

**3. Apologies**

Cr Melissa De Santis, Councillor, City of Melton  
Vonivate Tawase, Fijian Community Association Victoria  
Anderjew Asayhe, Semine Gondar Welkait Tsegede Edr

**4. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests**

Nil



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### 5. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

#### Motion

L Campos/ A Jongroor

That the Committee adopts the minutes of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Advisory Committee meeting held on 16 August 2017.

### 6. Business Arising

The following matters are business arising from the previous minutes of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Advisory Committee meeting held on 16 August 2017.

6.1. E Dileri to set up a meeting for the sub-committee on a Wednesday in September 2017 to plan CALD Leaders' Forum. Actioned.

6.2. E Dileri to open a Facebook Group account and include G Verma, V Tawasi, G Muralider and M Villorba as administrators for the Group. Actioned.

6.3. G Steel to email E Dileri the new procedure to request presentation at community events from Victoria Police. Actioned.

6.4. E Dileri to send G Haddad's email regarding the Active Arts Project on to the Committee members. Actioned.

### 7. African Communities Working Group (ACWG)

T Ball presented a summary of key points of the ACWG's meetings which took place on 22 August 2017, 19 September 2017 and 21 November 2017.

He also discussed the draft Victorian African Communities Action Plan developed by the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC). The draft Action Plan is currently out for community consultation / submission. The consultation process provides an opportunity for more Victorians of African heritage to read the draft Action Plan and contribute their views by 15 December 2017. He encouraged Committee members to read the draft Action Plan and provide feedback if they wish to.

He talked about the submission made by the Metro Councils' African Australian Communities Working Group and subsequent meeting with the DPC Officers responsible for developing the draft Action Plan. All recommendations in the submission were considered in the draft Action Plan.

A Jongroor asked about the employment of African Australians.

T Ball highlighted State Government's deliberative recruitment process towards employment of African Australians as a positive step.

D Arthur perception of some employers about the people from diverse background may hinder their employment.

#### Action

E Dileri to circulate the African Communities Action Plan to the Committee members.

### 8. Neighbourhood Participation Program

L Harding and M Baker presented on Neighbourhood Participation Program. Neighbourhood Houses are places where people connect, laugh, share, learn, make friends and find opportunities to grow in local Neighbourhood. Presently there are five Neighbourhood Houses and three small Township Centres.



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A Jongroor asked if these Neighbourhood Houses are run by Council or other organisations and if there was a membership fee.

L Harding advised that three Neighbourhood Houses are run by Council with no membership fee and two Neighbourhood Houses are run in partnership with community organisations. They may have membership fee for participants.

S Pope enquired about working hours of the Neighbourhood Houses.

L Harding Council runs programs for 25 hours a week.

L Campos asked about venue hiring costs.

L Harding mentioned Council Venues Team look after venue hiring aspects of the Neighbourhood Houses if communities wish to use them against a fee for their events.

### Action

E Dileri to send a copy of L Harding's presentation to CALDAC.

#### 9. CALD Leaders' Forum

E Dileri provided a summary of the meeting held on 6 September 2017 at Caroline Springs Library to discuss the CALD Leaders' Forum.

- The Forum to be held after hours in March 2018 at the Melton Library and Learning Hub. Date to be confirmed.
- The proceedings for the evening will include a speech from the Mayor/ MP, keynote speaker followed by a break out session where participants will discuss key themes and issues.
- Participants to be carefully selected by committee members and Council staff to ensure a diverse range of cultures are represented.
- Cr Turner, Cr De Santis, K Khanal, K Dulal and G Muralider offered to volunteer and be actively involved in the organisation of the event.

#### 10. CALDAC Facebook Group

E Dileri informed the Committee about Council's Communications Policy regarding Facebook Group. Based on Council's Communications Policy, CALDAC Facebook Group can be administered only by Council Officers and posts can be reviewed before they appear on the page. He requested Committee members to like the Facebook Group and post the events and other community related news items.

S Zaman suggested that the Facebook Group include the word Melton.

### Action

E Dileri to email the link of the Facebook Page to CALDAC so that members like it.

#### 11. Other Business

T Ball mentioned the establishment of a brand new Neighbourhood House in Kurunjang.

A Pasupulate after the success of Diwali event in October 2017, plan to organise Holi Festival early March 2018.

Cr Turner reminded A Pasupulate to check dates to avoid any potential clashes with other events.



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E Lacey invited Committee members to their Christmas Party on 25 November 2017 at 4pm at Hannah Watts Park.

H Dewanyang talked about legal issues faced by their community. He advocated for the establishment of a community legal aid office in Melton.

G Kueth highlighted his personal experience working in the community sector. He further mentioned young people need support with their schooling and driving hours.

D Arthur briefly talked about Stand Up program providing free tutoring for school aged young people and he also presented on Stepping Up's Drug and Alcohol programs.

S Zaman informed the Committee members about the Melton Interfaith Network's free community dinner on 13 December 2017 from 6pm to 8.30pm at Melton Community Hall. She also talked about Building Equality and Respect Forum organised by the Melton Interfaith Network in partnership with Djerriwarrh Health Services, Hobsons Bay, Wyndham, Brimbank and Maribyrnong Interfaith Networks.

G Verma Sri Durga Temple will organise Holi Festival on 4 March 2018. He expects thousands of people from all over Victoria to attend the event. He also expressed his dismay over Meat Livestock Australia's TV ad depicting prophets and deities from different religions. The ad is taken down after faith communities' protest over the ad.

I Harb expressed that there were fewer rides for young people at the Djerriwarrh Festival this year.

Cr Turner talked about the winners of the Djerriwarrh Festival who participated in the Street Parade.

- Most Outstanding Achievement: Dream Big
- Outstanding School Award: Melton South Primary School
- Community Spirit Award: Combined Churches Melton
- Best Themed: Women Making it Happen – Djerriwarrh Health Services

### Actions

D Arthur to email E Dileri information about the Stepping Up's programs to be sent onto Committee members.

S Zaman to email E Dileri Free Community Dinner flyer to be sent onto Committee members.

### 12 Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 14 February 2018 commencing at 6.30pm at the Melton Library and Learning Hub.

### 13 Close of Business

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.