



INNER WEST COUNCIL

Multicultural Advisory Committee

Thursday 6 May 2021

Ashfield Service Centre, 260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield 2131

Meeting room 1, Level 5

Meeting summary

The meeting commenced at 6.35 pm

Present

Staff	Community members	Councillors
Ingrid de Meyer (IDM) Convenor	Osmond Chiu (OC)	
Olivia Wilson-Zarganis (OW-Z)	Rosanna Barbero (RB)	
Matt Balane (MB)	Vi Pham (VP)	
	Trina Supit (TS)	
	Marc Rerceretnam (MC)	
	Ernest Yung (EY)	

Chairperson – OC

Acknowledgment of Country – OC welcomed members to the meeting and provided an Acknowledgment of Country

Apologies – Alexandra Missiris, Giladesi Namokoyi, Wael Sabri and Susan Kumagaya

Disclosure of Interest – There were no disclosures or conflicts of interest.

Confirmation of Minutes:

- Confirmation of the minutes of the 9 February 2021 meeting were endorsed unanimously.
- It was noted that all actions had been addressed.

Discussion items

Item	Summary	Recommendation/action	Council response
<p>Item 1 Draft Gender Equity Strategy</p>	<p>Matt Balane presented to the MAC.</p> <p>The MAC thanked Matt for his presentation and work on the gender equity strategy.</p>	<p>The advisory committee supported the Gender Equity Strategy and congratulate Inner West Council for developing this.</p> <p>The following comments and points were noted –</p> <p>1). Structural barriers are key elements to work on as they that prevent participation</p> <p>2). Gender equity and diversity - important that all levels of council reflect both gender equity and diversity including Councillors.</p> <p>3). Intersectionality – in our actions we reflect the gender lens this needs to be an intersectional lens.</p> <p>(MB and IDM to ensure gender equity strategy reflects these key points).</p>	<p>The draft strategy is going to the 8 May 2021 Council meeting and then on to public exhibition.</p> <p>These points will be included in the action plan following public exhibition period.</p>
<p>Item 2 Vietnamese Precinct</p>	<p>OW-Z Community engagement is open and a community consultation with Vietnamese community is being held tomorrow for the naming of a Vietnamese precinct in Marrickville.</p>	<p>The MAC committee supported the culturally appropriate and inclusive engagement model of engagement collaborating with Vietnamese community.</p> <p>MAC recommends this model is used for future engagements with multicultural communities.</p>	

<p>Item 3 Welcoming Cities and Membership</p>	<p>OW-Z & IDM</p> <p>Welcoming Cities is a National Network which supports local Councils and communities to advance their work in diversity and social cohesion.</p> <p>There is a framework, tools and standards. The standards are under six categories;</p> <p>Leadership Social and Cultural inclusion Economic Development Learning and skills development Civic participation; and Places and Spaces</p>	<p>MAC support and recommend IWC join and become a member of the Welcoming Cities Network.</p> <p>Noted that Welcoming Cities is complimentary to existing work and plans/strategies.</p>	<p>Council to review membership of the Welcoming Cities Network</p>
<p>Item 4 Anti -racism Campaign update</p>	<p>Racism not Welcome – street sign campaign is continuing to gain more support and momentum.</p> <p>RB -NSW Upper House passed the motion (537 Councils), as well as the Teacher Federation</p> <p>Australian Asian Alliance is a partner.</p> <p>Campaign is having positive impacts on children - Local schools are reaching out for the signage</p> <p>Interest from regional areas.</p> <p>Website is about to go live www.racismnotwelcome.com</p> <p>With tools, stories, the resolution, list of most recent councils, where the signs are located and more.</p>	<p>More councils are coming on board and adopting the campaign with approx. 11 in NSW signed up.</p> <p>Cumberland Council an exception.</p> <p>MR- suggested exploring business networks for further support. Thomas Gin was mentioned as a former Business leader.</p>	<p>Council to provide MAC feedback to Anti-Racism Campaign suggesting the idea of reaching out to business networks or Chambers for further support.</p>

<p>Item 5 National Anti-racism framework (AHRC)</p>	<p>OC – outlined the launch of the draft National framework by the Australia Human Rights Commission (AHRC).</p> <p>AHRC is consulting groups at present on the framework</p>	<p>MAC advisory committee to keep across the development of the Anti racism framework and provide input.</p>	
<p>Item 6 Multicultural Communities and the Communication of the roll out of COVID vaccines</p>	<p>Huge problem amongst CALD communities is mistrust of information and government.</p> <p>Communication is all one-way people need opportunity to ask questions with people who have expertise.</p> <p>Health are setting up diversity hubs</p>	<p>Any role that IWC takes with vaccine roll out needs to incorporate a two-way process.</p>	
<p>Item 7 Updates</p>	<p>Vi Pham updated MAC that Community and Cultural Connections (CCCI) are working with Mandarin community – first meeting is on 27 May 2021 and will include the Asian Women’s Network.</p> <p>No other updates</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>Item 8 General Business</p>	<p>MR – raised the importance of having diversity represented in the gender equity strategy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diversity Arts <p>Australia has tool kits on diversity.</p>	<p>Recommended that IWC could support and provide tool kits for local groups to encourage more diversity.</p>	<p>Council to investigate existing diversity tools and resources and report back to MAC</p>

Next meeting

Thursday 8 July 2021 at 6.30pm at Ashfield Service Centre

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm