



# INNER WEST COUNCIL

## Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC)

Tuesday 11 February 2020

Ashfield Civic Centre, 260 Liverpool Rd, Ashfield 2131

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### Minutes

Meeting started at 6.15pm;

#### Present

- Ingrid de Meyer (IDM - Convenor), Naomi Bower (NB) Social and Cultural Planning Cultural Strategy, Natalie Waddell (NW) Community Engagement, Osmond Chiu (OC – Chair), Marc Rercerethnam (MR), Rosanna Barbero (RB), Trina Supit (TS), Vi Pham (VP)

#### Apologies

- Giladesi Namokoyi, Alexandra Missiris (AM), Ernest Yung (EY), Susan Kumagaya (SK), Aniela Pepe (AP-Multicultural Projects Officer).

#### Welcome and Introductions

- OC welcomed everyone and provided an Acknowledgement of Country
- All members introduced themselves.
- NB introduced the purpose of her attending the meeting in relation to developing a cultural strategy and NW attending to support and gather feedback form MAC members.

**Disclosure of Interest** (Any conflicts of interest need to be disclosed in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct)

- There were no disclosures or conflicts of interest.

#### Minutes from 7 November meeting

- The Minutes of the 7 November 2019 were adopted by consensus.



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## **Item 1 Cultural Strategy**

NB- presented background and questions for the MAC to consider and respond to in relation to Council developing a 10-year Cultural Strategy –with a 4 year action plan.

### **WHAT CAN COUNCIL DO TO SUPPORT CULTURE?**

Some key points included;

Explore models for togetherness/ intersectionality. Provide triggers for culture to be fluid, inspire new expressions and investigations, using intersectionality.

#### **Support is:**

How to write/ prepare a grant. Breaking down categories to embed diversity in all we do. Advocating/ education.

Working from the bottom up and with young people: community led programming with Council as facilitator. Create connection to place and belonging that we can all get on board with

Expressions from different classes/generations

### **WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES FOR INNER WEST CULTURE?**

Need to understand emerging practice. Understand/ review representative practice

Perception that diverse groups are a problem and not an asset

Intersectionality is ignored. Perception that culture is static/ fixed. Need to demonstrate value of cultural diversity.

### **WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS OF INNER WEST CULTURE?**

Legacy- childcare centres first bi-cultural in Australia, Addison Rd purpose built multicultural centre. Knowledge of historical societies to form foundation of new practice

Intersectionality in terms of current cultural expression e.g. LGBTIQA

### **MULTICULTURAL---CREATIVITY---ARTS --- WHAT ARE THE CONNECTIONS?**

Collaborative models as demonstrated in Western Sydney. Important to include voices of children and Youth

The advisory committee thanked Naomi for attending and coming to consult with MAC members regarding the development of the cultural Strategy.

## **Item 2 Matters Arising Draft a Council resolution**

This item was discussed at the 7 November meeting. Racism takes many forms.

**Recommendation 1** *That the MAC draft a Council Resolution that the 21 March is recognised as the International Day of the Elimination of Racial Discrimination as per the United nations declaration. Declaration. (Moved by consensus).*



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**Action** -OC to set up a google document for input from MAC members.

**Recommendation 2** *That IWC raise awareness about the anti-racism declaration and its origins on social media (adopted by consensus)*

## **Item 3 Planning for International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

MAC members updated on planning that was underway through the IWMN members. Poster/Flyer has been finalised with guest speakers.

Good to let communities know and invite them to participate on the day in the rally/march from Enmore park on Saturday 21 march or/and at Addison Road. Food music/performance are also part of the day.

**Action** MAC members agreed to send messages out via their networks and participate on the day where possible

## **Item 4**

### **Priorities for the MAC for 2020**

Priorities for the 2020 period were discussed the following were identified;

- Economic Development – in relation to Town Centres
- Environmental Issues
- Service Advice in relation to Housing – stories of rental discrimination

MAC advisory committee keen to have input into these type of developments.

How Council communicates with CALD community in relation to environmental issue.

Provide a link to Marrickville Legal and other services in local LGA

## **Item 5 Meeting schedule**

Agreed that Thursday were better days for MAC members to meet.

Following dates were identified 7 May; 9 July; 24 September and 5 November 2020

6.00pm – 8.15pm

The meeting schedule was confirmed by consensus.

## **Item 6 General Business**

There was no general business.

## **Next meeting**

**Thursday 7 May at 6.00pm** at Ashfield Service Centre. The meeting closed at 8.10pm