

Media Release: Thursday 12 September 2019

CCOEI congratulates Bwe Thay on his appointment as VMC Commissioner

CCOEI President Mr. Sui Ting Tse said “on behalf of the CCOEI, the Migrant Settlement Committee and all its members we congratulate Bwe Thay on his appointment and wish him success in his new role as VMC Commissioner. Bwe Thay is a passionate advocate for a multicultural Australia. He has worked on a number of projects with the CCOEI and has been on the CCOEI Management Committee since 2016 and Vice President since 2018. We have great confidence in his ability to exceed in the role as VMC Commissioner”.



Since arriving in Australia as a Burmese refugee in 2009, Bwe’s professional and community contributions have been recognised on numerous occasions by the Government of Victoria, community-based organisations and educational institutions. Bwe’s voluntary work spans grass roots community development and empowerment right through to advising various levels of government. Focusing on bringing people together, building capacity and raising aspirations, Bwe has worked tirelessly to empower new Australians of all backgrounds to take advantage of the power of education to improve their lives and the lives of their families and communities.

The Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) is led by 12 commissioners. They're appointed by the Governor-in-Council for terms of up to 4 years. As required under the *Multicultural Victoria Act 2011*, the VMC includes:

- Chairperson
- Deputy Chairperson
- Youth Commissioner
- Community Representative Commissioner

The role of VMC Commissioners:

- work at a grassroots level to gain a solid understanding of the issues facing ethnic communities
- attend events
- liaise between different faith and community groups
- meet on a monthly basis
- develop strategies to address community issues

Bwe’s wide ranging experience, connections and community leadership roles will enhance his new role with the VMC.