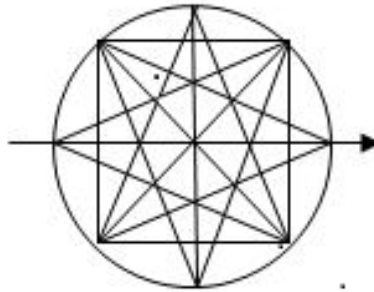


**Chairs:**

Sam Navarria: Mob: 0432 975 558  
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**MIGRANT SETTLEMENT COMMITTEE (Eastern Region)**

Standing Committee of the Communities' Council on Ethnic Issues (Eastern Region) Inc.

Reg. No. A0017562S

**Migrant Settlement Committee**

**Minutes**

**November 6, 2020**

**Zoom meeting – 9:30 am – 11:00 am**

**1. Acknowledgement of Country – Ken Pang**

**2. Attendance and Apologies**

**Present**

Tina Andriotis	Box Hill Institute
Dilnaz Billimoria	Whitehorse Interfaith Network
Sally Brooks	Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne)
Chris Cosgriff	CCOEI, Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place Ambassador
Heather Cosgriff	CCOEI, Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place Ambassador
Mervat Dahdoule	Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne)
Krishani Dassanayake	CCOEI – Committee of Management, Coordinator SMRC
Damien Finette	CCOEI – Committee of Management
Marilyn Gurry	CCOEI – Committee of Management
Vincent Hu	Chinese Community Social Services Centre Inc
Helen Jurcevic OAM	Women's Friendship Group Manningham President
Emily Ma	Chinese Parents Social Support Network
Dan Martinez	Silver Dollar Media
Jenny Mitchell	Whitehorse Manningham Libraries CALD Branch Manager
Sam Navarria	MSC Co Chair, CCOEI Committee of Management
Tamika O'Brien	NEAMI National
Saarah Ozeer	Bounce
Con Pagonis	CCOEI - ECCV Senior Volunteer
Ken Pang	CCOEI – Volunteer
Carole Pondevie-Lay	Melbourne Polytechnic Com. Liaison & Engagement Manager
Vicki Selimi	Services Australia, Multicultural Services Officer
Cynthia Shaw	CCOEI - Secretary, MSC Co Chair
Elizabeth Sidiropoulos	Victoria Police, MLO
Robin Steward	Australian Taxation Office
Bwe Thay	Swinburne University, Community Liaison Officer
Sui Ting Tse	CCOEI - President
Emma Wilkinson	City of Boroondara

### **Apologies**

Jessica Bishop	MIC East Melbourne
Marisa Briant	Link Health and Community
Iresha Buthgamuwa	Eastern Community Legal Centre
Gitta Clayton	CHBC/Winter Shelter and Sharing Hope
Gina Etienne	Eastern Health, Manager consumer/community
Helen Forbes-Mewett	Monash University, Associate Professor Sociology
Belinda Haydon	Link Health and Community
Prya Hewage	ATO, Migrant Education
Varvara Ioannou	Food for Thought Network Inc.
Sarah Martinelli	City of Whitehorse, Community Development Officer – Diversity
Madeleine Parker	DET Senior Project Officer EAL
Meghana Patel	Community
Ada Poon	Centre for Holistic Health, Service Coordinator
Rachel So	Women's Health East
Clary Verbunt	Nieuw Holland Dutch Elderly Social Club, CCOEI
Rebecca Wickes	Monash University

### **Guests**

Duy Le	Industry Capability and Inclusion, Level Crossing Removal Project, Senior Project Officer
Cassandra Bethune	Level Crossing Removal Project
Barbara Reeckman	Melbourne Polytechnic, AMEP Pathway Guidance Coordinator
Tatenda Verenga	Box Hill Institute, Skills and Jobs Centre

**Note:** Andrea O'Brien (Chisholm) and Lara Rutherford (Swinburne) were unable to present and will be invited at a meeting of the MSC in 2021.

### **3. Minutes - MSC 2 October 2020**

Moved Cynthia Shaw, Seconded Sam Navarra.

### **4. Business Arising – incorporated in the meeting agenda.**

### **5. Correspondence – circulated via email to members of the MSC**

- **CCOEI Annual General Meeting** will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020.
- **MSC Member Survey.** Cynthia asked everyone to help by completing the survey as this information helps to prioritise topics and speakers for meetings and events in 2021. She said the survey is entirely anonymous and contains 10 questions taking no longer than 10 minutes to complete

### **6. Update on the MSC 2020 Calendar and plans for 2021**

The 2020 Calendar was updated and reviewed in July/August 2020 due to CoVid-19 restrictions and event cancellations. The Calendar focus Aug. 2020 – Dec 2020 included: Mental Health (September); Covid-19 and social inclusion (October), Education and Employment (November); Family Violence services – ECLC - (December); A formal process in December 2020 will be undertaken to plan the MSC Calendar for 2021 including. This will include analysis of the member e-survey. MSC members are invited to participate in the planning meeting in December to have direct input and to help plan future events. Previous suggested topics: LGAs supporting communities during and post Covid-19; and CALD and Digital Inclusion (both topics to be considered in 2021 calendar).

## 7. Meeting Focus: Employment, Education and Training

- (a) Skills and Jobs Centre Swinburne University (Lara Rutherford) (Unable to attend)  
Skills and Jobs Centre Box Hill Institute (Tatenda Verenga)  
Skills and Jobs Centre Chisholm Institute (Andrea O'Bryan) (unable to attend)
- (b) Case studies (Barbara Reeckman, AMEP Pathway Guidance Coordinator, Melbourne Polytechnic)
- (c) Employment opportunities, Level Crossing Removal Project (Duy Le)

### 7. (a) Skills and Jobs Centres

Tatenda spoke about the programs and activities of the Skills and Jobs Centre at Box Hill Institute. She noted that Skills and Jobs Centres are based in TAFEs across Victoria, and provide expert advice on training and employment opportunities, including: careers advice; help with job searching and preparing resumes; apprenticeship and traineeship advice; referrals to welfare support and financial advice; assistance in using existing skills to align to a new job; Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL); information about employment trends; assistance with career and training plans, identifying training qualifications that could be undertaken to make a successful career transition etc.

Centres also engage with a broad range of local industries, ensuring that services are tailored to meet the needs of their local communities and industries.

Skills and Jobs Centres are aimed at: prospective and current students; apprentices and trainees; unemployed or retrenched workers; women returning to work; new immigrant/refugees; anyone seeking a career change; employers and industry etc. More information on [this link](#)

### 7. (b) Case studies

Barbara Reeckman presented 3 examples of AMEP students who have found employment as a result of a VET pathway:

- Hay, a Box Hill Institute Lilydale campus student from the Karen community, obtained a Landscaping Construction Apprenticeship after he successfully completed Box Hill's Dual Delivery EAL and Cert II Horticulture in 2018.
- David, a Swinburne Croydon student from the Falum Chin community, obtained a Bricklaying Apprenticeship after he successfully completed Swinburne's Dual Delivery EAL and Cert II Building and Construction (Bricklaying). (See attached Slide)
- Manal, a Melbourne Polytechnic student from the Syrian Community successfully obtained a full-time Teacher's Aide position at the Glenroy Special School after completing the Certificate III in Education Support.

## 7 (c) Employment Opportunities, Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP)

Duy said that the project have not previously engaged extensively in the Eastern Region, they were now collaborating with organisations in order to make their program more accessible.

Training for the Future is a rail industry skills program to prepare Australians to deliver an unprecedented amount of work on the Melbourne rail network over the next ten years and beyond. This program will result in a new generation of rail talent for Victoria. It will provide opportunities to re-skill people with relevant experience from industries in decline, as well as training people from disadvantaged communities. The key elements of Training for the Future include: industry capability; skills development and diversity and social inclusion opportunities.

Duy spoke about the Engineering Pathways Industry Cadetship (EPIC) program. This is an 18 month employment program for refugee and asylum seekers engineers. Successful cadets receive a funded Graduate Certificate in Infrastructure Engineering Management to re-qualify them as Australian engineers whilst working on major transport infrastructure projects. Applications open starting December 8 2020 for the 2021 intake, expressions of interest can be lodged through Jobs Victoria and other community employment networks, or enquiries can be directed to [LXRP-EPIC@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au](mailto:LXRP-EPIC@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au)

**See attached flyer:** Engineering Pathways Industry Cadetship (EPIC). Expressions of interest are sought from refugee and asylum seekers with a Bachelor Degree in Engineering (civil, electrical or related) to participate in this exciting program. Information sessions will be delivered in December 2020. Interested people can contact directly through the *special inbox* for the program contained on the flyer. An invitation to the information sessions with then be sent out to them. [LXRP-EPIC@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au](mailto:LXRP-EPIC@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au)

## 8. Reports

### Agency Reports

- **MIC - Sally Brooks** reminded members about the Employment Network meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> November. Sally also spoke about the Connect program helping people into Seasonal Work. If there are any interested clients please get in touch with Sally at email [sbrooks@miceastmelb.com.au](mailto:sbrooks@miceastmelb.com.au)
- **MIC - Mervat Dahdoule said** that the MIC had received funding for a Family Violence worker. Please contact the MIC for further information about how the worker can assist those in need. Mervat also reminded members about the Community Visitors Scheme, with CoVid-19 restrictions volunteers have engaged in conversation on the phone and on Zoom. Mervat said that although their office is still closed due to CoVid-19 - they are fully functional and contactable. [mdahdoule@miceastmelb.com.au](mailto:mdahdoule@miceastmelb.com.au)
- **ATO - Robin Steward** promised to provide an update for members in writing to be disseminated. *(Subsequently this information was received and forwarded to members by email on 7.11.20)*
- **Services Australia - Vicki Selimi** provided her report regarding [Reporting Arrangements for Christmas 2020 and New Year 2021](#) in writing via email. *(Subsequently this information was received and forwarded to members by email on 7.11.20)*

**Next MSC Meeting: Friday 4 December 2020**

**Focus:**

- **Introduction** – Ken Pang, CCOEI and MSC Meeting Convener

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- **Family Violence Services through the lens of CoVid-19.** Presented by:
  - Jacinta Maloney, Manager – Partnerships & Community Development (Inner East).  
Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC)
  - Ruth Howland, Program Coordinator SAGE Family Violence Team, ECLC
- **MSC Survey** – analysis by Dr. Lillian DeBortoli
- **Strategic Planning 2021**

**NOTE:** Please remember to send your written reports for the minutes to assist the chairperson and also to ensure the minutes are accurate. Your assistance is appreciated. To contact the chair (Sam Navarria) please use this email: [chair.msc@gmail.com](mailto:chair.msc@gmail.com)