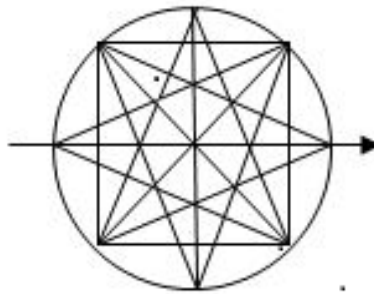


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MIGRANT SETTLEMENT COMMITTEE (Eastern Region)

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

Reg. No. A0017562S

Minutes – Friday 06 May 2022

Zoom meeting 9:30 am – 11:00 am

Chairperson: Dilnaz Billimoria

1. Acknowledgement of Country – Dilnaz Billimoria

2. Attendance

Presenters

Dilnaz Billimoria - CCOEI Committee of Management, Multi-faith and Interfaith Contact
Emiliano Zucchi – CEO, Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV)
Denisse Sandoval – All Alone Together Project, ECCV
Capella Henderson - Project Coordinator, Amplifying Community Voices in the East. ECLC

Present

Carole Pondevie-Lay	Melbourne Polytechnic
Chris and Heather Cosgriff	CCOEI and MMIGP
Con Pagonis	COOEE eNews Editor
Cynthia Shaw	CCOEI Committee of Management Member
Emma Wilkinson	Social Inclusion and Policy Project Officer, Boroondara
Iresha Buthgamuwa	Eastern Community Legal Centre
Jason Triolo	Yarra Valley Water
Ken Pang	CCOEI and MSC
Krishani Dassanayake	CCOEI, Community member
Madeleine Parker	Department of Education
Martha Papagiannis	Dept. Home Affairs\
Megan Cook/Vicki Selimi	Services Australia, MSO (Phone in)
Mervat Dahdoule	MIC Eastern Melbourne
Nora Fernandes	Palliative Care Vic
Sameera Abdeen	Yarra Valley Water
Tamika O'Brien	Neami National

Apologies

Sam Navarria	CCOEI and MSC
Daniel Noel	CCOEI President
Bec Patterson	Foundation House
Sarah Martinelli	City of Whitehorse
Gitta Clayton	Croydon Hills Community Care
Jess Ness	Centre Ringwood Community Centre
Helen Jurcevic	Women's Friendship Group
Mary Guy	Editor COOEE! eNews

Acknowledgement of Country. Dilnaz Billimoria acknowledged the original custodians of the lands of those attending the MSC meeting, their elders past present and emerging.

Minutes - MSC April 2022

Moved - Cynthia Shaw, Seconded - Emma Wilkinson (Boroondara).

Business Arising – incorporated in the meeting agenda when required

Correspondence – circulated via email to members of the MSC (often on a daily basis)

MSC 2022 Calendar (see attached calendar). The Calendar was fully endorsed at the December Review and Planning meeting.

Next meeting:

- 3 June 2022: Host - Carole Pondevie-Lay. Focus: *Pathways to Employment via education, work placement and volunteering.*

Report from Con Pagonis:

- **COOEE! eNews Update:**

Handover of the Editor position: CCOEI has recruited a new Editor to take over from Con. Mary Guy will move the publication to MailChimp and also reduce the length of the newsletter to concentrate on the Eastern Region of Melbourne. We will continue to rely on the MSC community for content. Contributions for our next issue - No. 67- are most welcome and can be emailed to Mary Guy at editor.ccoei@gmail.com by no later than June 3rd.

- Con is taking up a new voluntary position at ECCV working across regional and metro Ethnic Community Councils.
- **FECCA Conference:**
Con reminded members of the upcoming [FECCA 2022 Conference – Advancing Multicultural Australia, 16-17 June](#) to be held at the Sofitel – Melbourne

Meeting Focus: Major Anti Racism Strategies

Dilnaz Billimoria introduced CCOEI's Focus for the meeting. Dilnaz said *"we are placing a searchlight on Racism, Discrimination and Vilification and how we combat this with Anti-Racism Strategies at grassroots and organizational level. This is something all migrants have faced and continue to face today. As a woman of colour and faith, I can speak of my lived experiences. Racism can be loud and obvious. Discrimination is conscious or unconscious bias. Vilification is even more dangerous when it is subtle and insidious. All of the above reared its ugly head through two plus years of CoVid and slurs like "Go back to where you came from" was often touted causing grave physical and mental trauma to the recipients of these taunts. The obvious financial costs of Racism, Discrimination and Vilification, resulting lost jobs, loss of income, is huge. The hidden costs are even worse for society with lost opportunities, grave injustices, and pain across the inter-sectionalities of age, gender, ethnicity, disabilities, etc.*

With this sensitive topical subject in mind, we are pleased to bring you two different perspectives".

1. **Ethnic Communities Council Of Victoria ECCV : All One Together:** Campaign. Delighted to have Mr Emiliano Zucchi, CEO of and Denisse Sandoval, who drove the piece of work for the Campaign give their time to speak to us. Link here to the PowerPoint presentation.
Please see two attachments:
 - a) PowerPoint presentation to the MSC (06 May 2022)
 - b) Letter to Ambassadors (March 2022)

Here is also the link to view some examples of Ambassadors and their statements:
www.allonetgether.org.au

2. **Eastern Community Legal Centre [ECLC]: Project *Amplifying Community Voices in the East*** heading this initiative and collaboration with partners from Chinese Centre For Holistic Health, Indian Care, CCOEI, and Community. We appreciate Capella Henderson, Project Officer, ECLC taking the time to speak of this unique project. Saarah Ozeer and I are Community Representatives, wearing CCOEI and other hats. Link to the [PowerPoint presentation](#)

Q & A Session:

Q&A was undertaken for about 10 minutes at the end of both presentations. Members were requested to post their questions in the chat.

Other Reports:

- **Department of Home Affairs – Martha Papagiannis** (see attached)
- **Migrant Information Centre – Mervat Dahdoule**
MIC offices are now fully open every day during business hours for face to face contact for appointments and walk-ins. Activities include: weekly play groups, Chinese grandparents group and homework groups for Primary and Secondary students.

Dilnaz thanked both ECCV and ECLC for giving their time and explaining what is happening in the Anti Racism space.

Dilnaz reminded everyone of the upcoming Free Refugee Celebration event, Saturday 25 June 2022 - 11.00 am to 2.00 pm at the Central Ringwood Community Centre. A light lunch and entertainment. Please put the date in your diaries.

Dilnaz thanked Cynthia, Con, Ken, all attendees, etc. Dilnaz apologised for some technical glitches in Zoom.

Next meeting: 03 June 2022:

Meeting Focus:

Pathways to Employment via education, work placement and volunteering. Hosted by Melbourne Polytechnic

Chair: Carole Pondevie-Lay