



Multicultural Advisory Group

Date	19 August 2020
Time	2:30 – 4:30pm
Location	Large Committee Room, Level 1 Eddie De Vere Building Cnr Currie and Bury Streets, Nambour
Chair	Kim Price
Secretariat	Ange Gray
Attendees	David Hollinsworth, Thị Bích Hợp Nguyễn, Dr. Sheikh Muhammad Naveed, Graham Adra, Jessica Taylor, Linda Dennis, Peppi Bueti, Vicki Qiu, Councillor David Law, Kim Price, Liam Mayo and John Clayton
Apologies	Greg Laverty

Meeting minutes

Item No	Agenda topic
1.	Welcome, introductions and overview
1.1	Open meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housekeeping and meeting overview
1.2	Traditional acknowledgement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessica Taylor
1.3	Official welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cr David Law
1.4	Introductions Members spent two minutes each responding to the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What country/land do you come from? Where is your energy in community building right now? <p>Group members have country/land connections to Lebanon, United Kingdom, Vietnam, Italy, First Nations, Pakistan, China, country Australia and generational connections regionally.</p> <p>Energy for community building is around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> preserving cultural customs and language responding to racism challenging stereotypes building a welcoming, inclusive and connected region tackling social isolation and building relationships responding to unemployment leading by example hosting deeper conversations and holding space for meaningful outcomes

1.5	<p>Sunshine Coast Community Strategy (the Community Strategy) 2019-2041</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liam Mayo provided an overview of the Community Strategy and highlighted some key outcomes and work in progress, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Partnership with USC Sunshine Coast Thompson Institute ○ Sunshine Coast COVID-19 Housing Crisis Response ○ Community Strategy Leadership Group (CSLG), who have formed three working groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At Home in My Neighbourhood; ▪ Housing and Homelessness; and ▪ Racism • MAG expressed racism as a primary concern. • The group discussed current procurement policy with regards multicultural business and the current wording of 'Traditional Owners' potentially excluding broader First Nations communities. • David Hollinsworth and Cr David Law are members CSLG, which will provide an important link between the work of MAG and CSLG. <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore current procurement policy with regards to the possibility of including multicultural business and the current wording of 'Traditional Owners' potentially excluding broader First Nations communities. – Cr David Law
1.6	<p>MAG - Key achievements and the next 12 months</p> <p>Key achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAG launch event - A Diverse Community, A Strong Economy with guest speakers Huss Mustafa, General Manager, Multicultural Community Banking Australia CBA and Craig James, Chief Economist CommSec. • Sunshine Coast Multicultural Welcome Hub – providing new migrants with information on social connections, essential services and support. The Welcome Hub includes a handbook and directory, translated fact sheets and six video stories from multicultural residents on the Sunshine Coast. • Migrant Work Ready Program - improved the skills and confidence of 47 multicultural residents who were looking for employment. Participants learnt about Australian work culture and received help preparing a resume, learnt about job hunting and interviews, maintaining a positive mindset and setting goals. • 2020 National Awards for Local Government (NALG) - Migrant Work Ready program won the multicultural Australia category of NALG. The award highlights innovative and resourceful solutions to make a difference to local communities. • Providing current information on Local, National and State issues, statistics, research and best practice. • Representing the Group and the benefits of the Multicultural Action Plan and the Community Strategy as guest speakers at local events and radio programs and through regular media statements. • Maintaining a regular dialogue with sector groups, agencies and government departments. • Partnership brokerage and development of the Cultural Diversity and Inclusion School Forum.

- Advocacy for changes to the Newly Arrived Resident's Waiting Period and for appropriate support for University of the Sunshine Coast international students during COVID-19 pandemic.
- Facilitating interfaith discussions.
- Brokering internships for key multicultural projects.
- Facilitating cultural capacity discussions and providing expert advice to Council's People and Culture Group.
- Advice on Councils Cemetery Plan in regards to the funeral and burial needs of cultural groups.

Next 12 months

- Continuing to develop and deliver the Cultural Diversity and Inclusion School Forum and the Migrant Work Ready program.
- Work with Council on anti-racism strategies.
- Building First Nation partnerships.
- Increasing dialogue and activities that promote and demonstrate the value of cultural diversity to regional economy and business.
- Conduct a review of the Multicultural Welcome Hub.
- Build connections within the health sector and advocate for culturally appropriate information sharing and cultural capacity building.
- Build interfaith dialogue and activities.
- Participate in a regional discussion on multicultural water safety.
- Explore the development of a cultural capacity training offering for council staff.
- Advocating for multicultural and First Nation categories in the Sunshine Coast Business Awards.
- Advise on review of At Home in My Neighbourhood program. Particularly with regards to cultural diversity, inclusion and creating a welcoming region.

Discussion

- Vicki Qui would like to connect with the Sunshine Coast Chamber Alliance Business Mentoring (SCCABM) program on behalf of the Sunshine Coast Chinese Association.
- Migrant small business start-up is also an important contributor to the region and it would be valuable to explore ways to support small business skills development and incubation opportunities through existing programs i.e. Nambour Reimagine, SCCABM etc.
- Zero To Startup is a successful Toowoomba program equipping migrants with skills to start their own business. The project is run by [Canvase Coworking](#) and funded \$33,0000 through the Department of Home Affairs Fostering Integration Grants program.
- Case Study for Migrant Work Ready program will commence in November after the 2020 program has completed. The case study should also include the social outcomes of the program.
- When promoting opportunities to multicultural communities consider appropriate cultural channels and communications styles. In addition, it's important find community leaders who can act as cultural brokers.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage communities to join the Sunshine Coast Multicultural Network Facebook page which has become a primary source of regional information. <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce Vicki Qui to the Paul Whinnett from Sunshine Coast Chamber Alliance Business Mentoring program – Kim Price Explore funding options for Migrant Work Ready program – Kim Price Explore pathways for small business skills development and incubation opportunities through existing programs i.e. Nambour Reimagine, SCCABM etc – Kim Price Contact Joy Taylor from Canvase Coworking to discuss their approached to Zero To Startup business program. – Kim Price
2. MAG structure	
2.1	<p>Where do you see yourself within MAG?</p> <p>The group spent time considering their area of expertise, concern and passion and self-nominated focus areas for the next 12 months.</p> <p>This will be an ongoing exercise.</p> <p>Areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and wellbeing (empowerment, participation and resilience). Education (expanding knowledge, acceptance and recognition of diverse cultures). Economic opportunities (skills, employment and business networks). Racism and discrimination (diversity and inclusion strategies). Settlement (establishing, engaging and connecting new multicultural residents). Multi-faith and intercultural dialogue (encouraging intercultural connections and leadership). Cultural diversity and inclusion (building capacity, engagement and participation in community life).
3. Business Arising (rolling agenda items and/or action items that are due)	
3.1	<p>Approve the minutes of the previous meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominated by: David Hollingsworth Seconded by: Dr. Sheikh Muhammad Naveed Accepted by: Kim Price
3.2	<p>Outstanding action items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter to USC regarding international students during COVID-19 pandemic. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 29 July 2020 a follow-up letter has been send to Professor Joanne Scott with no response to date. David Hollinsworth has received some information from Kerry Green MAG briefing pack for the newly elected council has been progressed through Greg Lavery. Migrant Work Ready case study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project brief has been approved and will be progressing to project plan. Connect with 2018 and 2019 participants who have had a positive outcome as motivators for future participants, include strong women. Meeting with local hospitals about the disbursement of multicultural materials, still in progress.

	<p>On hold</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morton Bay Council visit to progress when COVID Safe requirements allow. Liam Mayo and Kim Price to progress <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send project plan for Migrant Work Ready case study to MAG for review – Kim Price Coordinate a meeting with local hospitals about the disbursement of multicultural materials – Dr. Sheikh Muhammad Naveed and Kim Price
3.3	<p>Portfolio updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migrant Work Ready Program – Peppi Bueti Interfaith - Dr Sheikh Muhammad Naveed Community Strategy Leadership Group – David Hollinsworth
4. Ending Items	
4.1	<p>2020 meeting dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly meetings to be scheduled on Wednesdays 1.30pm to 3.30 pm
4.2	<p>Review of actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore current procurement policy with regards to the possibility of including multicultural business and the current wording of 'Traditional Owners' potentially excluding broader First Nations communities. – Cr David Law Introduce Vicki Qui to the Paul Whinnett from Sunshine Coast Chamber Alliance Business Mentoring program – Kim Price Explore funding options for Migrant Work Ready program – Kim Price Explore pathways for small business skills development and incubation opportunities through existing programs i.e. Nambour Reimagine, SCCABM etc – Kim Price Contact Joy Taylor from Canvase Coworking to discuss their approached to Zero To Startup business program. – Kim Price Send project plan for Migrant Work Ready case study to MAG for review – Kim Price Coordinate a meeting with local hospitals about the disbursement of multicultural materials – Dr. Sheikh Muhammad Naveed and Kim Price

Next meeting

Date	21 October, 2020
Location	Maroochydore