

Introduction

The Sunshine Coast is a diverse and dynamic society with many cultures, languages and faiths – one in every five citizens are born overseas with our region being home to people from more than 150 countries.

The Sunshine Coast's multicultural citizenship continues to grow by at least 2000 people per year, in addition the region hosts over 3000 international students and welcomes over 230,000 international visitors annually.

The Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041 (the Strategy) provides a plan for the region's shared goal of a strong community through partnership, collaboration, advocacy and direct action.

The Strategy provides a long-term framework for how council and our community will work together through to 2041. The Strategy has two parts:

1. The [Sunshine Coast Community Strategy](#) sets a vision, five outcomes areas, guiding principles and methods for how the goal of a strong community will be achieved.
2. The [Sunshine Coast Community Strategy Action Plan 2019-2024](#) outlines the key priorities to achieve our five desired outcomes. It also provides a clear approach to regular measuring and reporting.

Council is committed to the vision outlined in the Strategy being, 'Together we thrive - In all of our communities people are connected, included and feel welcomed. At the heart of our communities are our people who come together and actively participate in their community and contribute to the social, cultural and creative life of our region. People are welcoming, caring and respectful and equal opportunities are available to all' (2019, p.4).

Sunshine Coast Multicultural Advisory Group

The Sunshine Coast Multicultural Advisory Group (the Group) is an initiative that forms part of the Community Strategy Action Plan 2019-2024 (the Action Plan).

The Group will provide expert advice and a structure for the implementation of the Action Plan outcomes and objectives. The Group will also provide a framework for on-going communication and consultation between the Sunshine Coast's emerging and established multicultural communities, the not for profit sector, government agencies and Sunshine Coast Council.

Council is currently inviting nominations for membership to the Group.

- Membership is voluntary (out of pocket compensation is offered if participation sits outside the member's core work responsibilities).
- Meetings will be held six times per year.
- Members are appointed for a two year term.

Membership is open to:

- Any member of the multicultural community who lives on the Sunshine Coast.
- Specialists and academics on multiculturalism and cultural diversity.
- Representatives of community groups, organisations, agencies and service providers who have a focus on the provision of services to multicultural communities on the Sunshine Coast.
- Representatives from all levels of government who have a focus on provision of services to multicultural communities on the Sunshine Coast.

Privacy

Council will use any personal information provided for the intended purpose only and for remaining in contact with you. Council is authorised to collect this information in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and other Local Government Acts. Your personal information is only accessed by persons authorised to do so. Your personal information is dealt with in accordance with council's privacy policy.

Nominees will need to demonstrate:

- Close connections to the Sunshine Coast area.
- Experience in working with multicultural groups and communities.
- An understanding of the needs and issues affecting multicultural communities.
- A commitment to making a positive difference for multicultural residents on the Sunshine Coast.
- An understanding of the Community Strategy vision, five outcomes areas and guiding principles, and associated Action Plan.

Knowledge/experience in the in the following areas is also desired:

- 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).

What are the responsibilities?

For the two year term of appointment, the Group's responsibilities are to:

- Support the deliverables through the provision of expert advice.
- Provide rigorous and transparent advice to Council on its policies, plans, programs and services as they relate to the multicultural community and sector.
- Assist Council to promote the benefits of the Strategy and provide support in advocacy efforts.
- Provide advice to Council regarding effective engagement with the multicultural community and sector.
- Assist with reporting, reviewing and updating of the Strategy.

Guiding principles

The following principles which are embedded in the Strategy will guide the Group.

Place-based

Place-based approaches bring together the efforts of a range of stakeholders in local communities (residents, community organisations, the private and public sector) to respond to issues and opportunities of local importance. Place-based approaches are highly collaborative and drive shared accountability that leads to longer-lasting social change and impact within communities.

Collective approach

A collective approach brings together the four foundational elements of asset based community development and best practice community engagement. A collective approach brings together communities and local organisation to build a vision of the future based on common values and narrative, in turn opening up peoples' hearts and minds to new possibilities.

Outcome-focused

Outcomes are the effects of a program or activities on participants and communities. An outcome-based approach means outcomes are aligned with goals and that we try to measure the extent to which we have achieved our goals. Measurement of progress towards an outcome tracks performance and provided feedback that is used to inform adjustments to a strategy where necessary.

We also recommend you read the Strategy and the Group Terms of Reference for more details.

How do I nominate?

Once you have read the Strategy, Action Plan and the Terms of Reference and you are happy to proceed, you will then need to fill out the Nomination Form and send it to Community Development Officer, Locked Bag 72, Sunshine Coast Mail Centre, QLD 4560 or email commdevelopment@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

Your nomination form and support materials must be received no later than **5.00pm Monday 13 July, 2020**.

How is membership decided?

Membership will be determined by a panel of independent members and council representatives.

Nominees will be advised by Wednesday 29 July, 2020.

Key dates

Date	Stage
13 July	Nominations close
20 to 24 July	Panel assessment
29 July	Advise nominees
3 to 14 August	MAG induction
19 August, 2020	Multicultural Advisory Group Meeting

Interpreting service

If you need language assistance to complete the nomination form in English please contact Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50.

For further information

Please contact Kim Price on Ph. 5441 8385 or email commdevelopment@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au