

MIN NO **MINUTES OF THE LOCAL INDIGENOUS, MULTICULTURAL AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF ASHFIELD COUNCIL, HELD IN ASHFIELD TOWN HALL, 260 LIVERPOOL ROAD, ASHFIELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 MAY 2011, COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM.**

PRESENT Councillor Rerceretnam in the Chair, the Mayor Councillor Cassidy, Councillor Kelso, Joyce Chen, Winnie Wu, Andrew Reid, Raymond Arraj, Morrie Jenkin, Aruna Chandrala, Margaret Davis, Anna Kerr, Se Gun Song, Cathy Gao, Gerard Howard.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LOCAL INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

"Let us acknowledge that we are meeting on country for which the members and elders of the local Indigenous community have been custodians for many centuries, and on which Aboriginal people have performed age old ceremonies. We acknowledge their living culture and unique role in the life of this region."

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED Jenkin/Rerceretnam

An apology for non attendance was received and accepted from Susie Schio & Telphia Leanne Joseph

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures were made.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION: Jenkins/Rerceretnam

That the minutes of the Local Indigenous, Multicultural Ethnic and Ethnic Affairs Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 13 May 2009 be confirmed.

STAFF REPORTS

UPDATE ON INITIATIVES FOR ASHFIELD'S CALD(CULTURALLY & LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE) COMMUNITIES.. Cathy Gao - Community Harmony Officer. Report Submitted with attachment 1.

(13/04/11)

Committees - LIMEAC

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LMC 7.1 Attached

Detailed discussion of the report discussed during the meeting covered topics including:

- Migration Stories – ideas for their collection & sharing included: through the Ashfield District Historical Society & the Haberfield Association; family history projects conducted through schools; University students completing communication courses; multicultural communication channels such as SBS, 98.5 FM radio, the Community Information Exchange.
- Best Shopfront Awards – These have been held in Ashfield previously. Future directions regarding these awards are likely to be discussed at a Councillor level.
- Community Legal Centres – the feasibility of having some community legal advice service operate from the new Ashfield Civic Centre was discussed. The issue will be followed up by a member of the Committee.
- United Indian Association – the Association is currently looking for suitable premises for their activities.
- Local settlement needs and services available – Are services keeping up with demand? The Chinese Migrant Welfare Association has had its funding cut. Key settlement issues identified during discussion included neighbour disputes, property disputes and family relationship issues e.g. Separation. The Community Services section of Council was requested to come up with an overview of settlement issues in Ashfield including statistics, current needs & options for use of the new Ashfield Civic Centre by settlement services and groups.
- In light of the recent UWS report called 'Challenging Racism' (2011) headed by Dr Kevin Dunn, which mapped levels of community tolerance and harmony in various Sydney metropolitan areas, the Ashfield Municipality was found to possess above average levels of general acceptance of all communities, even newly arrived ones. Levels of racism against Asians, Jewish and

Aboriginal communities were notably low in comparison with other parts of Sydney. In addition there were above average rates of cross-cultural interaction in the workplace and social life. The LIMEAC believes such positive community views have been encouraged and facilitated by the progressive and successful programs and campaigns of the Ashfield Council's Community Services Department.

RECOMMENDATION: Davis/Arraj

- 1/4 That the information contained in the report be received and noted.**
- 2/4 That Council send a letter of appreciation to Mr John Yong of Blue Sky computers for his voluntary assistance in conducting computer classes for the Chinese business community.**
- 3/4 That the Committee notes the positive levels of tolerance documented in the UWS report and considers that such outcomes have been encouraged and facilitated by the progressive, successful programs and campaigns of Ashfield Council's Community Services Department.**
- 4/4 That future meetings of the Local Indigenous, Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Committee be held on a quarterly basis.**

GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

PROCEEDINGS TERMINATED AT 8.30PM

Chairperson of the meeting of Local Indigenous, Multicultural
and Ethnic Affairs Committee
when the Minutes were confirmed

Chairperson

Date