## Multicultural Times

- journalism for diversity -

Published every alternate Wednesday

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Online voluntary payments welcome



Towards an inclusive, diverse & multicultural Aotearoa

#### An introduction

- as we launch this newspaper today, here's what readers can expect to read in every issue of Multicultural Times

The content in Multicultural Times is designed to adhere to its motto of journalism for diversity, by covering the news, views, successes, struggles, and celebrations of over 200 ethnic groups in New Zealand. What is distinct about the coverage that readers get in Multicultural Times though, is some of our very special sections, as detailed below.

#### **Multicultural communities**

This is essentially the core of what we stand for, and what we cover. These are stories from across the country focusing on each and every ethnic group calling Aotearoa their home.

#### **Diversity and inclusion**

With multiculturalism arises the need for appreciating diversity and demanding inclusion, a must if New Zealand is to succeed in the modern world. We focus on this here.

#### **Migrant businesses**

Migrants are great entrepreneurs. From smalltown dairies, to big hotel chains, to upcoming high-tech start-ups, the success stories are endless. Every issue introduces our readers to such individuals.

#### **Enlightened companies**

Here, we explore the question - why does diversity work? Those companies that employ a diverse workforce succeed. They are what we call "enlightened companies". We profile such companies in this section.

#### News you can use

Want to know what to do to call an ambulance? Or what are your rights as a tenant? These are important everyday questions, whose answers are useful if you are new to New Zealand, or even if you have been living here for generations. Find many such information here.

#### Your corner/ migrant stories

This, as the title suggests, is 'Your Corner'. Simply put, these are stories of migrants in their own words. How they came to New Zealand, and then slowly, brick by brick, how they built their lives here.

#### A better New Zealand/ **Positive stories**

Media these days are often criticised - and with good reason - for being too negative. Clickbait journalism and all! Multicultural Times is changing that by bringing

positive, inspirational and uplifting stories to the fore here.

#### **Organisations**

Multicultural Times is all about collaborations. We partner and get inspired from numerous non-profit, social, cultural, and community organisations from all around New Zealand. This is the section where we profile them and their work.

#### Community media

A big motivation for what we do at Multicultural Times is to take the power of media back to the people. And what best way to do this than to make media community-sourced. All our readers are potentially Multicultural Times' citizen journalists and video volunteers. You see your own work here. Be a disruptor. Join the revolution!

#### **Campaigns**

Sometimes issues are so important, one story is not enough. Take for example, coethnic exploitation of migrant workers in New Zealand. A sustained campaign with numerous follow-up stories is needed to make policy-makers notice. This is the space for such initiatives.

#### **Immigration system** needs to be consistent, minister told in Chch



At the launch of Multicultural Labour Canterbury

The immigration system of New Zealand, with all its rules and regulations, needs to be fair and consistent. Right now, it is too much dependent on the officials, who use their discretion while applying these norms. This was the most common complaint that Immigration Minister Iain Lees-Galloway faced on July 18, when he fronted up to a Q and A session with ethnic The occasion was the launch of Multicultural Labour Canterbury (MLC), which was also attended by the Greater Christchurch Regeneration Minister Megan Woods, and Labour MP Priyanca Radhakrishnan.

Narendra Singh Warraich, who was appointed the chairperson of MLC during the event, noted, "With over 120 people present from across communities including Chinese, Koreans, and Indians, the inconsistency in application

of immigration rules, was the common complaint. To the minister's credit though, he assured the gathering that the government is working hard to fix New Zealand's immigration system, with several announcements due soon."

Other concerns expressed to the minister included increasing difficulty in getting partnership visas, communities in Christchurch. uncertainty about the parent visa category, and work rights provisions for international students, which make them vulnerable to exploitation by unscrupulous employers. "Some people also reiterated the longstanding demand of pegging the pay rates for people gaining residence under the Skilled Migrant Category to their profession. This so because, while it is easier for tradies to get over \$23.49 per hour, not many in the retail sector can reach it, putting them at a disadvantage," Warraich added.



#### For complaints

Multicultural Times is subject to NZ Media Council procedures. Any complaints must first be directed in writing, within one

editor@multiculturaltimes.news. If not satisfied with the response, the complaint may be referred to the Media Council P O  $Box\ 10$ -879, 93 Boulcott Street, Wellington 6011. Or use the online complaint form at www.mediacouncil.org.nz/complaints Please include copies of the article and all correspondence with us.

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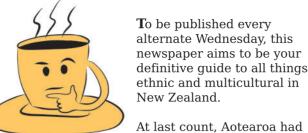
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#### New Zealand is changing. So should the business of story-telling.



inspite of all the good intentions of average Kiwis, and efforts put in by government, ethnic A special thanks is communities in New Zealand due to Roanna Ng still feel "alienated", "left out", for her amazing or "voiceless". What aids such support in helping a feeling - and this is a general us meet the launch consensus - is that the ethnic deadline. issues, news, views, struggles,

successes, or celebrations, don't find adequate representation in the country's public discourse.

Multicultural Times is an effort to change this prevailing state of affairs with the ultimate goal of creating social cohesion across New Zealand.

As Multicultural Times' tagline - Journalism for diversity pointedly says, we hope that by bringing the ethnic side of things into mainstream New Zealand, society at large will develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of each other's

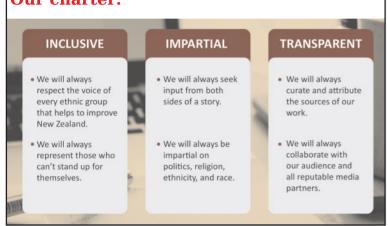
culture. And when the wider community is sensitised about ethnic issues, it goes out of its way to help new migrants to settle in.

In turn, New Zealand as a whole benefits and prospers.

Our team is very excited to embark on this journey of building bridges between communities in the land of the long white cloud, and will need all your support, appreciation, and critique along the way.

Here's to a more inclusive, diverse and multicultural Aotearoa!

#### Our charter:



#### Our co-founder:

**E**ric is

second-

Chinese

who

generation

Malaysian,

migrated to

Australia in

the 1990s.

213 ethnic groups calling it

home. Unfortunately though,



**Eric Chuah** 

His 15 years in the banking industry spanned multiple cities in Australia, China, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Indonesia and the

Philippines. After arriving in New Zealand in 2013, as **Head of Customer Segments** and Migrant Banking for ANZ, he lead the bank into charting new territories with record achievements in sales performance, customer satisfaction, and staff engagement. He left ANZ in 2017, to start Cultural Connections - a multicultural research and consulting firm

with a social purpose,

focusing on using data to create conversations that lead to positive change. In June 2018, Eric launched another social enterprise called The Cookie Project that provides fair, meaningful, and fun employment to youth with disabilities. He is committed to contributing towards social cohesion and racial unity in New Zealand through Multicultural Times.







#### **Our Advisory Board:**

As we recognised that a news media company plays a vital role in a healthy democracy, we have established a charter that is well supported by our Advisory Board.



**PRIVATE SECTOR CAROL BROWN** CEO Diversitas



**EDUCATION SECTOR** PROFESSOR EDWINA PIO

**Professor of Diversity** and University Director of Diversity



**PUBLIC SECTOR** JIMMY CHEN Councillor for Hornby Ward (Christchurch City Council)



**COMMUNITY SECTOR** TAYO AGUNLEJIKA **Executive Director** 

Multicultural New Zealand



**PAULINE GAO** Founder MultiMarketing and YiJu

**MEDIA SECTOR** 

Carol came to New Zealand from South Africa in 1999. Having spent most of her career in talent acquisition and engagement, in 2010, she was one of the pioneers in leading the diversity and inclusion portfolio for a large Australian organisation, before coming back to NZ to set up her own specialist consultancy in this field under Diversitas. In 2016, she collaborated with Massey University to set up RoleWorks, which provides a platform to support inclusive work practices for employees and their managers. She hopes to use her expertise to influence New Zealand companies to provide job opportunities for all, where individual differences, strengths, and capabilities are fully harnessed in the workforce.

Edwina Pio is University Director of Diversity, in a position annexed to her substantive role as professor in the Faculty of Business, Economics and Law. She is New Zealand's first Professor of Diversity, a Fulbright alumna and recipient of a Duke of Edinburgh fellowship. She is widely published and travels extensively to Europe, North America, Asia and Australia for research and information dissemination with diverse audiences in the academic, business and social sector. She is also Research Leader of the Immigration and Inclusion Group, Co-director of the Global Centre for Equality & Human Rights, Fellow of the New Zealand (NZ) India Research Institute. In 2008, she published a book "Sari: Indian women at work in New Zealand".

Jimmy was born in Taiwan, immigrated to Christchurch in 1996, with his wife and two daughters. After 22 years in Christchurch, he is well-known in his community. Before being elected as a Christchurch City Councillor, he was a home tutor, tourist guide, and interpreter. Jimmy has worked for IRD and then for KiwiCorp Products Ltd. In 2007 Jimmy was elected as a Christchurch Riccarton-Wigram Community Board member and in 2010 he was elected as a Christchurch City Councillor, being reelected in 2013 and in 2016. He is currently Chair of the Council's Multicultural Subcommittee as well as Chair of the Council's **International Relations** Working Group.

Tayo Agunlejika is a Nigerian born New Zealand citizen and currently the Executive Director of Multicultural New Zealand (New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils), a position he has held for the past three years. Before taking on the management position, he was the National President for three years and provided leadership, vision, strategic thinking, and direction for the National Board, regional boards, managements, community organisations, and members. In 2006, Tayo initiated and established the annual Upper Hutt Multi Ethnic Soccer tournament. He also initiated and contributed to the Noho Marae **Induction Programme** (Pathway to Citizenship).

Pauline moved to New Zealand from the city of Guangdong (China) in 2000 as an international student. In 2009, she established MultiMarketing as a specialist marketing agency in the construction and property development sector. MultiMarketing also helps companies to communicate effectively across different cultures in New Zealand, and is involved in the export sector selling NZ made materials such as highdensity panels to China. In 2013, Pauline further strengthened the company's position in the market by launching YiJu, a Chinese magazine (with 10,000 copies distributed across NZ and China) to help new Kiwis to settle and prosper in New Zealand through reliable and quality property insiahts.

# A snapshot of New Zealand's diversity...





A widely-believed misconception in New Zealand is that, outside Auckland, there's not much diversity or multiculturalism. You just have to look at the yearround happenings of the affiliated organisations of Multicultural New Zealand (MNZ), of which there are many, to see that it is not

affiliated organisations of Multicultural New Zealand (MNZ), of which there are many, to see that it is not true. There are 23 regional multicultural councils, and 35 regional New Zealand newcomers network, under the umbrella of MNZ, which celebrate Aotearoa's diversity 24/7, 365 days. In our inaugural issue, we give our readers a brief overview of what some of these organisations have been doing over the past one year, in their journey towards an inclusive, diverse and multicultural Aotearoa.

 content courtesy MNZ, and its affiliated organisations

#### **Nelson Multicultural Council**

Our involvement with the Nelson Tasman Settlement Forum, guided the developing of the project and programme ideas for the wider community. These included Race Unity Day, with Nelson City Council (Nelson Regional Development Agency) and community groups; Tasman Asian Night Food Fair, with Tasman District Council and local organizations; and Colour Craze, with Tasman Youth Council.

A Women's Hui, was also organized in the past year in partnership with the Nelson Angel Women Loan Fund.

The Nelson Tasman Advisory Group, got local agencies and organizations together to collaborate with our research - Meeting the needs and challenges of migrants and former refugees in the Nelson Tasman region, which was developed in partnership with the Centre for Applied Cross Cultural Research of Victoria University. It was successfully completed, which has given us a roadmap of what will be our strategy for the next five years. We will make this research publicly accessible via internet very soon.

We also engaged experienced professionals who delivered very successful inter-cultural awareness workshops.

We have continued developing our interpreters list as well.

#### Multicultural Council of Rangitikei/ Whanganui

This year we visited the local Koriniti Marae. The theme was "Cultural Awareness" and we had some very good speakers. The importance of Whanganui River was also a part of the discussion. We have got a very strong link with our local Iwi where there are no barriers when it comes to discussion and open forums.

Our last year's annual Diwali event also went very well. More and more people are showing keen interest in participating in this programme every year.

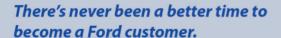
Our volunteers work tirelessly with newcomers providing support such as teaching English and kiwiana culture, CV preparation, interview techniques and other support that is required to settle in. A few cases of family violence and counselling has had fruitful results, without involving authorities and draining public funds. This is something we are keen to 'nip in the bud' as too much is at stake, especially if children are involved.



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Multicultural New Zealand, with 23 affiliated regional multicultural councils and 35 regional New Zealand newcomers networks, support and connect newcomers and migrants all over New Zealand.

Join our movement!

www.multiculturalnz.org.nz www.newcomers.co.nz







#### **Aoraki Multicultural Council**

The Aoraki Migrant Centre started 4 years ago with an empty office at Community House and has grown over the years into a hub for migrants and newcomers in South Canterbury.

We are part of Timaru Safer Communities Committee, Healthy Living South Canterbury, South Canterbury Neighbourhood support, Family Violence Forum, Project Turnaround, Te Rito and the National Council of Women. We recently joined the Public Transport Advisory Group to ensure that the needs for migrants living and working in rural areas are taken into consideration when deciding on changes in the Public Transport sector.

To help migrants to gain a better understanding about their current situation, we organised - in collaboration with a licensed immigration adviser - four "Immigration Advisory Workshops" in South Canterbury (including one in Ashburton).

Over the last year, we gave presentations and speeches to a large number of community groups, businesses, agencies, and employers. These workshops and presentations give our community a better understanding of the cultural differences and the cultural needs of migrants. We will continue to deliver these workshops and presentations, in order to bridge the gap between host people and migrants in our community for best settlement outcomes.

The regular "Coffee Tea & Chat" for migrants only, organised at our base in the Community House, also brings together all ethnicities to help them combat their social isolation, give them more exposure to the English language, learn about and experience the vibrancy of each other's cultures, share experiences, and benefit from the support generated by these social interactions.

Another highlight for our migrants was the visit to our local fire service station, where they learned how to set up an evacuation plan in case of a fire outbreak, how to make an emergency call, and how important it is to have smoke alarms in their homes and offices. Also, to celebrate International Migrants Day, we organised a BBQ at the Community House, to bring migrants and the community together.

Newcomers can pick and get involved in any of our activities including walking groups, knitting groups, potluck lunches and potluck dinners, movie nights, BBQs, day trips, meeting for dinner and social drinks.

#### **Dunedin Multi-ethnic Council**

Araiteuru Marae

We have been welcoming former refugees for the past 18 months by providing by the official powhiri, which we are now happy to announce, is being continued by Mana Whenua and the Mayor's Office as a full Civic Reception.

We are now developing with Interfaith, NGOs, government departments and other interested groups, the provision of a community powhiri for all migrants (from within Aotearoa and elsewhere).

In addition to this, we are committed to the annual DMEC noho marae to strengthen our relationships, as outlined in our 25-year strategic plan.

We are also partnering in a social enterprise with the An-nur Kiwi Trust that provides a small income for the DMEC.







#### **Auckland City Multi-ethnic Council**

To commemorate the Race Relations Day, the 11th Annual Franklin Multicultural Festival was held on April 7, 2018. It was through our efforts that this festival started in Pukekohe and still has huge support in the region. This year, the festival included a soccer tournament with 21 teams of children from seven primary schools participating. A cultural show from 20 different groups comprising Māoris, Pacific Islanders, Indians, Asians, Africans, and Middle Eastern, was also organised.

Interfaith forums: As members of Auckland Interfaith Council (AIFC) and the Council of Christians and Muslims (CCM), we actively participated in all their programmes. On April 22, we participated at the "Peacenic" get-together organised by the CCM at the Monte Cecelia Park, Onehunga, with over hundred people in attendance.

Santa Parade: On December 13, we organised a float in the Papatoetoe Christmas Parade that was attended by a huge crowd spread over more than three kilometres.

#### **Manawatu Multicultural Council**

In a big achievement for us, a number of women have gained employment after attending our conversational English classes, and willingly volunteered their time in organising various events the past year.

Last year, the Council took the responsibility of helping obtain funding to continue the Women's Only Zumba classes, and we are happy to have up to 20 women taking part in this important exercise twice every week. Our dance project has been greatly encouraged by and participated by many women from different cultures.

An important part of our annual activities is a trip to a marae. For a number of years, we have taken bus loads of migrants and refugees to visit a marae and learn about the Māori culture and the importance of the Treaty of Waitangi. We have established a firm relationship with the Rangitane Iwi, our local iwi, who willingly give migrants and refugees a Treaty of Waitangi orientation during the year.









#### **Christchurch Multicultural Council**

We had a 3-in-1 celebration this year: Holi - Race Unity Day - St Patrick's Day. Everyone attending had a lot of fun with colours, music, dance, food and getting to know others. The Christchurch and Rangiora Festivals of Colours (Holi) exhibited harmony, happiness, social inclusion, cross-culture participation, inter-culture awareness, and appreciation of multiculturalism in culturally diverse New Zealand. This is in line with the significance of Race Unity Day (21 March). CMC is proud to support these events as they promoted harmony, equality, friendship and happiness within multicultural and wider communities.

We did a joint presentation with Hagley College Principal Mike Fowler, Diversity Manager Thi Phan and Farsi language coordinator Alia Afzali at a Long Term Plan hearing in response to the submission for a funding request of \$7m for building a new multicultural centre at Hagley College. A sample of Christchurch's cultural diversity was showcased in the Council Chambers by having cultural performances from Hagley College's Afghani and Chinese performers.

A forum with political parties candidates (National's Nicky Wagner, Labour's Ruth Dyson, New Zealand First's Mahesh Bindra, and Green's Chrys Horn) was organised to hear the candidates' support for ethnic policy proposals put together by NZFMC, regional multicultural councils and several partners for 2017 NZ Elections. The proposals related to migrants and refugees issues, international students, settlement support and community well-beings under the Local Government Act.

CMC also collaborated with the Russian Cultural Centre Trust of Christchurch and Community Languages Association of NZ to organise and support "The Magic of Voices" event to celebrate the International Mother Languages Day on 25 February.

Multicultural Sports Tournaments: Christchurch Metro Cricket (Metropolitan Cricket Association) ran an inaugural Ethnic T20 Cricket Tournament with the support of CMC. CMC supported the 17th Multiethnic Football Tournament organised by Canterbury Polish Association (Darriusz Kanicki and team) at Avonhead Park. Eight teams representing Afghanistan, Fiji, Poland, Solomon Island, South Africa, Thailand, United Nations and Zimbabwe participated.



#### **Christchurch Women Council**

Christchurch Multicultural Women supported the Selwyn District Council (SDC) in organising Selwyn CultureFest, which was attended by over 4500 people.

We made further progress with the project "Living Between Two Cultures" which involves interviewing diverse ethnic women about their experiences, hardships and challenges in living their lives in the "two worlds". The project is nearing completion. The survey questions were sent to the women in Canterbury region and Waimakiriri district. We have 35 case studies.

We promoted and supported White Ribbon Day at Korean Festival.

In Christchurch, we hosted Indian Naval Vessel Tarini, and its all women crew. It was the first-ever circumnavigation by any all women crew in the world.

We also organised fundraising swap-a-bag for Women Refuge with the Shakti Women's group.



continued











MultiMarketing is a pioneer in multicultural marketing dating back to 2009 and publishes the most respected Chinese magazine on New Zealand property, building and construction since 2013.

Also presenting



To help new Kiwis settle and prosper in New Zealand through our multicultural product suite delivered by the best diverse talents.







#### **Waikato Multicultural Council**

We participated in several community events and seminars including Hamilton Mosque Open Day.

WMC's affiliated member Waikato Senior Indian Citizens Association Hamilton (WSICA) held their Indian Independence Day Celebration, marking 70 years of independence; as well as Zimbabwe Cultural Kaleidoscope was organised by Shama Community Development Scheme.

The 7th Waikato Multicultural Day Celebration took place at the Sacred Heart Girls College hall. The event showcased the culture and traditions by way of dance and music and represented the diversity of ethnicities settled in the Waikato.

We held the event Cultural Village at the Waikato Show on 6-8 April. There were 19 stall holders and 24 cultural performances held throughout the three-day event.

Waikato Muslim Association (WMA) Leadership Symposium - WMC was represented at WMA symposium, who together with their national body, Federation of Islamic Association of New Zealand (FIANZ), discussed ways for improving understanding of community strengths and weakness, opportunities and obstacles, success criteria and action for active contribution to New Zealand Society and on ways to improve social-economic outcomes.

Chinese New Year Celebration 2018 - The Chinese Arts Society invited WMC along with a number of community organisations to share and partake in the Chinese New Year celebrations which was held in Hamilton

Christmas Celebrations - WMC was also present at the Christmas celebrations of Waikato Filipino Association, Chinese Art Society and the Waikato Senior Indian Citizens Association.

Finally, the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) organised an informative event at the Settlement Centre, Hamilton. The topic was "Holidaying in Hamilton", which was a means of informing new settlers to Hamilton of the array of holiday spots that are within Hamilton. Brochures and information leaflets were distributed to organisation representatives to take back to their respective committees for disbursement to its members.



#### Waitaki Multicultural Council

The Waitaki Multicultural Council is part of the Safer Waitaki Coalition. Our areas of focus have included running the Community Self Defence Course targeting rural, migrant women with the support of Safer Waitaki. WMC and Safer Waitaki worked with high schools, Youthline and Police, with funding from Etu Whanau, to enable and facilitate a youth film event with the assistance of local film makers guiding year 9/10 students with the challenge of producing a film in a day. It resulted in the production of 10 violence prevention awareness videos, which have been uploaded to Safer Waitaki and other websites.

Community Safety and Cultural Competency - WMC has supported and participated in cultural awareness training, which has been designed to raise awareness of other cultures in the workplace and the community.

Newcomer activities continue to evolve with a total of 188 events consisting of regular coffee groups, walking groups, mothers groups, book group, Friday Night pub catch ups, Migrant Meet and Share gatherings, Young Newcomers gatherings, games nights, group dinners, Daffadil Picking Day, visits to Steam and Rail and community gardens, organised bus trips, shows and various workshops and outings.

Celebrating diversity - A new event was organised to celebrate the International Language Week in the form of afternoon high tea at a venue at the Historic Victorian Precinct, where there are displays of cultural items from many cultures and food from different countries. We learned how to greet people in different languages. Race Relations Day was celebrated with an International Dinner at Pembroke School in March. We had entertainment and a sharing of food from many different countries.

#### Multicultural Whangarei

International Day of Families event was organised in May 2018, with an increase in stall holders displaying their organisations offerings and a full programme of entertainment from many cultures.

Our Football tournament held in October 2017, was supported by NZ Police, Tikipunga Football club and 18 teams.

We ran a Treaty of Waitangi programme for two days.

An Immigration Specialist has been volunteering at our offices, providing immigration advice and offering his services where the need is beyond simple questions.

We have teamed with Volunteer Northland to deliver Volunteer workshops for our members to encourage and equip them to volunteer in our community.

We've also run volunteer skills training and Xero computer skills training funded by COGS.

We have also run the Profession Speaking Programme where participants receive a Speech New Zealand Certification. Ten students received certificates after our first session.

We worked with Citizens Advice Bureau, English Language Partners & WINGS (Women's International Networking Group) for Race Relations Day which included a walk and picnic at Whangarei town basin. Each year we partner with these groups to provide an event for the community.

Multicultural morning teas are held once a month at the local RSA.

Once a month we have a shared lunch at the centre, where everyone is welcome. We often have new faces joining us for lunch.









#### **Hutt Multicultural Council**

In partnership with Age Concern we started health and well-being exercise classes for seniors using the Steady As You Go (SayGo) programme at the Lower Hutt War Memorial Library.

Self-Defence Classes for women and mixed genders were also held in Naenae and Wainuiomata.

Dr Pushpa Wood of Massey University conducted a financial literacy workshop at the Lower Hutt War Memorial Library under the auspices of National Council of Women, Lower Hutt Branch and HMC.

A Newcomers Network Morning Tea was organised by Mia Dulay at the Stokes Valley Community Hub.

Electoral forums for the Hutt South and Rimutaka electorates were held at the Lower Hutt War Memorial Library and the Walter Nash Centre in Taita. These events were live streamed.

A Multicultural Football Tournament was held at the Hutt Recreation Ground.

A clean up of part of the Hutt Riverbank was well supported by HMC members, the Philippines Embassy and Police ethnic community patrollers.

Mutlifest 2018: Our most successful event in recent years was held at the Naenae Community Hall in partnership with Team Naenae. More than 500 attended with the release of the Peace Doves being a highlight. A celebration of the Holi festival concluded the event.





#### **Upper Hutt Multicultural Council**

The Eid celebration took place on the June 9, 2017 and it became our most multicultural event of the year! Working closely with the local Syrian and Muslim communities, the UHMCC team opened up the doors of St Joseph's School Hall (it is worth noting this is a Catholic School!) to celebrate the end of Ramadan with the diverse people of the Hutt Valley with over 150 people attending,

Upper Hutt Multicultural Week: At the end of September 2017, the UHMCC, with support from the Upper Hutt City Library, Office of Ethnic Communities and E Tu Whanau, ran the first ever "Multicultural Week" where each day of the week was dedicated to a different country/culture of the world. It provided an array of activities, workshops and events including a multi-ethnic Football Tournament, Japan Day, Aotearoa Day, China Day, Middle East Day and a multicultural festival for the grand finale of the week which attracted more than 300 people throughout the day and performances from Japan, India, Sri Lanka, Israel, China, Mongolia, Middle East, Ireland and Poland.

We developed a new program called the "Pathway to successful settlement and employment workshop". This was rolled out in Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt in 2016, then in April 2018, the course was rolled out in Porirua. We also had a Women's Self-Defence Course.

On the September 2, 2017, Upper Hutt was home to the nation's first-ever Luo Cultural Festival. The Luo people, despite originating from a number of East African countries – Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan, Rwanda, and more – hold a united identity based on the "Luo" language, which they all share.

This year we celebrated Race Relations Day with an inter high school debate. UHMCC held their Chinese New Year and Lantern Festival at Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre, on 3rd March.

This year we held a NOHO Marae for recent migrants and people who have arrived to New Zealand within the last five years.

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#### Tairāwhiti Multicultural Council

The Tairāwhiti Multicultural Council (TMC) is a small voluntary organisation that has been developing a large following across Tairāwhiti. The main focus for TMC has been helping to build the Opportunities without Discrimination (OWD) brand. OWD was launched at the 2016 NZFMC AGM and has been growing ever since. It aims to promote inclusion, diversity and opportunities for all, while eliminating discrimination and celebrating differences. OWD uses the wearing of odd socks to promote the message that "It's OK to be different".

The highlight of OWD's first year is the partnering with a local hosiery manufacturer in Gisborne to produce brightly coloured odd socks as a way to promote the OWD brand. The odd socks represent the message "It's ok to be different" and have proven to be a hit with over 200 pairs sold at the recent colour run. A portion of funds raised from the sales of the socks are donated to the Gizzy School Lunches program that provides lunch to Primary Schools in Gisborne.

We have successfully partnered with the Gisborne Harriers Club to deliver three very well attended colour runs. These colour runs have proven to be a great way to promote the OWD message "that is ok to be different", once everyone is covered in paint we are all the same.

We donated three picnic tables to Gisborne Hospital to provide staff, patients and their whanau quiet places to relax.

With help from the Community Organisation Grants Scheme we were able to run a very successful appreciation dinner for volunteers from various community organisations across Tairāwhiti. Once again the Tairāwhiti Multicultural Council supported the Bahai faith community to host the Race Unity Speech Contest with competitors from each of the secondary schools in our district.

Bollywood Star Restaurant owner Baljeet Sandhu and a group of volunteers provided free lunches for the needy from his restaurant regularly. Mr Sandhu said they hoped to make it weekly but at the very least it would happen once a fortnight. This project is in partnership with TMC

Also, thanks to the Tairawhiti Multicultural Council, Gisborne residents will again be able to celebrate the Diwali Festival of Lights free of charge.

#### Tauranga Multicultural Council

We ran a very successful professional English speaking course for migrants at the end of last year. In fact, we were so overwhelmed with the response that we are planning to run another one later this year.

Loyal members of our Newcomers Network Group have continued to support the coffee mornings, with many newcomers continuing to use this service. The Living in Harmony evenings continued last year after the festival with a different host country every month. The English classes continue with an additional evening class and are well attended.







- continued











#### Rotorua Multicultural Council

The Rotorua Multicultural Council entered the Rotorua Westpac Business Excellence Awards. We presented nine short tableaux, bringing together our migrant members and partner organisations, and were announced as the winner of the Community Organisation Westpac Business Excellence Award.

We also sponsored the Cultural Youth Leader Award in the OneChance Youth Awards. To ensure that we hear the voice of youth, we co-opted Beatriz Bae, the Chairperson of CATCH (Cultural Awareness to Create Harmony, a Club at Rotorua Girls' High School), onto our Executive Committee. She has been joined on the Committee by Jason Lee from Korea, the Head Boy at Western Heights High School.

During our regular multicultural tea and coffee mornings, we created the opportunity for our members to listen to and meet informally with politicians. We were joined by the honourable Todd McClay, Member of Parliament from Rotorua.

Instead of holding a large multicultural festival, we have been working with ethnic communities, schools and Toi Ohomai to celebrate the many cultures in our community. With a small Christian school, Bethlehem College Chapman, we celebrated the nine ethnicities among its students.

We held two very successful three-hour workshops presented by Tania Te Whenua of Te Whenua Consulting titled The Treaty in Your Workplace and Building Relations with Māori. Over fifty migrants attended the second workshop. Each of the participants received a Te Whenua Consulting and RMC Certificate of Attendance.

On the last Wednesday of most months, we organise a multicultural lunch at the Rotorua Library, each month hosted by migrants from a different country. The host provides enough food for the guests to taste, all the participants bring a small plate of their own traditional food along, and the host gives a brief talk about their country and its culture explaining the dishes they have prepared.





#### **Southland Multicultural Council**

We organised the International Women's Day Celebration on March 2018, and Immigration Policy Changes Seminar in February 2018. We proudly represented the Southland Multicultural Council Women's group in National Council of Women Southland on the Annual Suffrage Day.

We arranged a get-together with members of other women groups for celebration of the International Women's day with fun games and activities, and entertainments to make them feel special on that day.

We also ran a Multicultural-Women's Self-Defence Course in association with Women's Self Defence Network Wāhine Toa.

Southland Multicultural Women's Group also met in August to witness the healthy cooking demo of the Sri Lankan dishes. A spa party and Hokonui Culture Feast was also organised last year.



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Web: www.momentumnz.com

#### Do your research when dealing with immigration specialists: NZAMI

Coming to New Zealand as a migrant is a very exciting new challenge, but also a very brave move as you step into a new country with its own unique culture. You bring with you your own cultural nuances, values and language. The norms you have known all of your life need adjustment to assimilate into your new homeland, so change is inevitable, otherwise why have you come to this country?

Just because you have stepped into New Zealand, you are entering a new education college without exams. Unfortunately, until recently insufficient assistance has been available for migrants to understand the changes you need to make so that you can feel at home and welcomed.

Whilst New Zealand is globally voted as the least corrupt country in the world, there will always be people who can identify your vulnerability, so it is important that you go to the right sources of authority for information and not just listen to well-meaning migrants from your own culture.

Make sense of the information Key things to look for in you are given.

The start of your journey to New Zealand will have been to 1. Are they holding a current meet the New Zealand Immigration requirements and to achieve your ultimate goal takes time, and it is imperative that you deal with a qualified authorised Immigration specialist to help. Do your homework to ensure you engage with the right people to trust.

A good reference point to help you identity who can help, is the NZ Association for Migration and Investment also known as NZAMI a professional Immigration industry body recognised as the chosen collaborative partner with Immigration NZ.

Immigration licensed advisors and immigration lawyers who display the NZAMI logo being a member, this tells you that they are serious about continued up-skilling on Immigration policy and interpretation - we protect your interests and are judged by our peers.

selecting your immigration specialist:

- Immigration Licence from the IAA Licensing Authority? or
- 2. An immigration lawyer, exempt from immigration licence holding?
- 3. A member of NZAMI

Do your homework/research, by finding the right help and have your stress levels reduced with the confidence that you are dealing with the right people.

The New Zealand Association for Migration and Investment Inc. is a not-for-profit incorporated society established in 1989. It works closely with Immigration New care of migrants to New Zealand and the Immigration Advisers Authority in its commitment to playing a major role in building the professionalism of the immigration industry in New

The association is governed

Zealand.

NZAMI

#### **New Zealand Association for** Migration & Investment

- by June Ranson, Chairperson, NZAMI

by a Board of Directors who are elected annually by the NZAMI membership and are bound to the NZAMI Code of Ethics for the protection and Zealand.

Its membership consists of a diverse group of immigration advisers and lawvers who are committed to giving the best service possible to their clients, as well as a range of service providers who help

migrants with important settlement matters such as finding a job, banking, housing, relocation, education.

The 2018 NZAMI Annual Conference will be held on August 17, at Eden Park, Auckland. The registration of the conference are open.

For more information, go to www.nzami.org.nz

ORA NA

A'SALAAM ALEIKUM KAI ORA

NAMASTI

#### Important things to note when you seek immigration advice:

- The Immigration Advisers Authority keeps an online register for licensed immigration advisers at www.iaa.govt.nz. It
  - searching for a licensed immigration adviser
  - viewing an adviser's contact details
  - viewing an adviser's license history
- New Zealand lawyers can give immigration advice without a license providing they hold a current practising certificate from the New Zealand Law Society. Their website has all the details at www.nzls.org.nz.
- A licensed immigration adviser must set fees that are fair and reasonable in the circumstances. Since the advisers vary in expertise, the fees they charge and the level of service they offer.
- Stay away from anyone who:
  - refuses to put their name on your visa application
  - claims to have personal contacts at INZ
  - asks you to sign a visa application before it has been filled
- Complaints against licensed immigration advisers can be made on a number of grounds including dishonest or misleading behaviour, negligence incompetence, incapacity breaching the Code of Conduct.

MALO E LELEI SALUDOS CHAO MUNG KAI ORANA WITAMY UDOZLET SUOR SDEI CIAO



#### Auckland Multicultural Society Inc.

Established in 1978

#### THE MISSION STATEMENT

shall be as follows:

To work together to promote educational and social activities as a means of increasing understanding between cultures and strengthening New Zealand society.

#### **GOALS**

The goals of the Society shall be

To foster awareness of each culture and communication between members of the Society.

To experience and learn from the customs, traditions and ways of life of the ethnic groups represented in the Society as well as the wider community.

To achieve through educational and community projects deeper understanding and appreciation of different culture.

To publicise and promote the Multicultural goals and work of the Society as a means towards achieving unity in New Zealand

JOUR

Visit our website: www.aucklandmulticulturalsociety.org.nz NI HAO MA TALOFA LAVA ANNYONG SLAINTE OBRO DOSAL SAWA SDEE OLA SAWADI

SHALOM KOM

#### Plains FM: Celebrating 30 years of citizen-made media in many languages



Canterbury Sanjha Radio team with greetings in various languages at the entrance of Plains FM

**S**upported with funding from NZ On AIR and owned by the **Canterbury Communications** Trust not-for-profit access radio station, Plains FM, has provided the means for a huge variety of community groups, organisations, educational institutions and individuals to have a voice in the media since 1988.

Plains FM is one of 12 such "access" radio stations across New Zealand from Auckland to Southland. Content for broadcast and online delivery is made by advocates, activists, organisations, newcomers, children, elders, music fans, people with disabilities, youth, health

practitioners, international students, refugees, experts and enthusiasts. Airtime charges are kept low so any barriers to involvement are minimal. Plains FM currently has 91 locally made programmes produced by 200 broadcasters in 16 different languages. It also rebroadcasts 19 programmes from sister access radio stations from around NZ utilising a platform called AIR (Access Internet Radio) which has just clocked up 1 million online hits in 12 months.

"We believe in the value of citizen-made media for democratic health and we want ordinary people to

participate" says Station Manager, Nicki Reece. "It doesn't matter if vou've never broadcast before or your first language is not English because we can train most people to a high standard. We want to reflect those whose voices are not easily heard and whose stories are not widely told - the more niche the content the better!"

Plains FM's ethos is to help build community cohesion, educate, entertain and empower. Language is not a barrier - many multicultural content-makers share their unique perspectives, offer support to their communities and share wonderful music. Others talk about their culture in English for a broader audience. New content creators with a solid idea apply for an airtime slot and go through an intensive oneon-one or small group training process. They retain editorial control of their programme content and decide which information or stories they want to share through news gathering, interview and commentary.

Many - culturally and linguistically diverse or CALD young people have experienced their first taste of resulted in a weekly

broadcasting at the station. People who never thought they could be broadcasters have learnt media skills, made programmes in languages other than English, and even won national recognition in the process. Radio is more than just a voice behind the microphone these days. It encompasses a visual aspect through social media and Facebook Live and opportunities to develop a "TV" option so presenters can be seen as well as heard in the studio. Time-shifted online delivery means content can be accessed via any device and has a global appeal.

Newcomers or long-term migrants speaking Greek, Mandarin, Polish, Spanish, Samoan, Tagalog or Farsi, to mention a few, can be heard by family and friends overseas. Listeners can also get a sense of life in Canterbury through programmes made by staff from organisations supporting migrants and refugees such as Christchurch Resettlement Services, Interpreting Canterbury or Tangata Atumotu Trust.

Project funding through the Ministry of Education has

programme called STeudaemonia - International Students Living Well where students discuss how they live fulfilling, happy lives far away from home. They discuss the challenges living in a new country, and how they overcome homesickness and lack of family support. Participation in this project has exceeded all expectations and so far 65 young people have been involved from a range of English language schools or educational institutions, most of them never having been behind a microphone before.

Plains FM is about ordinary people from all walks of life connecting with each other and creating engaging, illuminating, quirky or useful content across a range of platforms. Who knows what the next 30 years will bring!

For enquiries email laura@plainsfm.org.nz or ring 03 365 7997 or apply online at www.plainsfm.org.nz Other links: www.plainsfm.org.nz/ www.nzonair.govt.nz/ www.accessradio.org/ www.acab.org.nz

- content courtesy Plains FM

## A BETTER CHANCE (華助會), founded in May 2014,

is a government-registered non-profit charity organization. We provide necessary supports for New Zealand Chinese community. We offer well-rounded and comprehensive workshops, seminars and services to members without any charges. Members of our organization comes from all walks of life, and age groups. They could be pre-school children, school-aged children, high school and tertiary students, full-time workers, full-time moms, and retired elderly.



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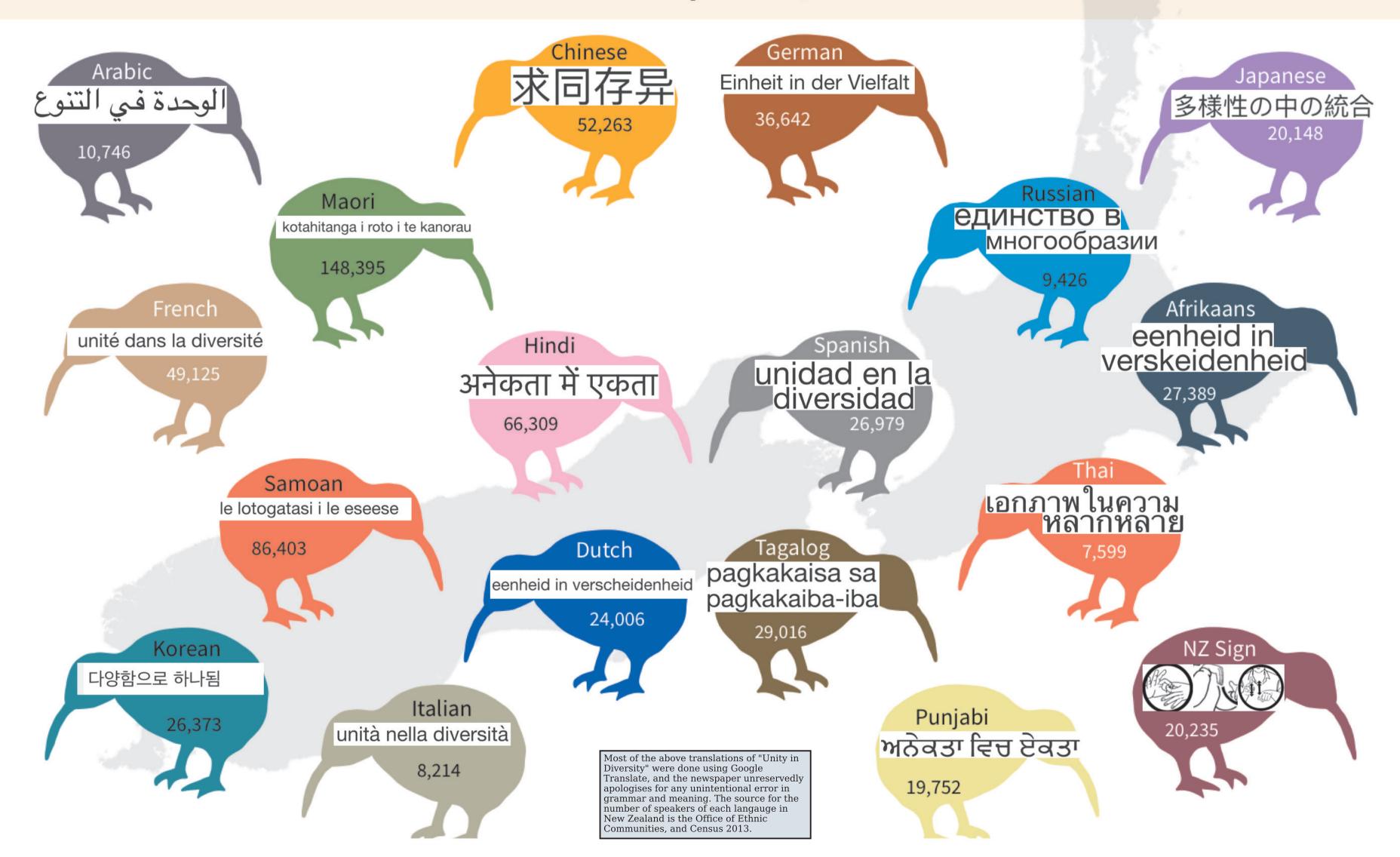


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## Unity in diversity

No matter what we speak, we are all Kiwis



## Christchurch Multicultural Strategy - one year on 'Our future together'

#### About Christchurch Multicultural Strategy

The Christchurch Multicultural Strategy, launched last year, is a commitment by the Council to provide a framework and a set of goals and actions to ensure every single person in Christchurch feels a sense of belonging. It will also give everyone in Christchurch an equal opportunity to access the Council's services, information, as well as participating in the decisionmaking process. This Strategy acknowledges Ngāi Tahu are mana whenua — the indigenous people of our area in Christchurch, and that Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the foundation document of New Zealand.

It recognises that the Council has a leadership role in making Christchurch a city where diversity is welcomed and celebrated. This Strategy outlines what the Council can do in terms of improving service delivery, up-skilling the internal organisation and developing authentic relationships to achieve the outcome of a diverse, inclusive and welcoming city.

As such the City Council will: monitor implementation of the Strategy across the Council with the community, and publish an annual Diversity and Inclusion report.

It proposes the following vision for Christchurch:

Ōtautahi Christchurch: An inclusive multicultural and multilingual city that honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi and values our diversity — a city where all people have a sense of belonging.

The strategy also seeks three outcomes:

Ngā Pou Haumaru - The sheltering mountains - the land. A safe place that people are welcomed into, where each person is cared for and Rangatiratanga is respected.

Te Wairua Rāhiri - The welcoming spirit - the home people. A commitment to welcoming all who arrive to Ōtautahi with aroha and manaakitanga. A commitment to reciprocity when given such a welcome.

Te Waka Eke Noa - A purpose and model - the canoe we all are part of. An environment we can access where we can achieve common goals and understand the importance of working together.

So one year one, how is the Garden City doing in terms of its multicultural strategy? Christchurch City Councillor and chair of the Council's multicultural subcommittee, Jimmy Chen, has this to say, "The Council has developed a four-year implementation plan along with the community to achieve the four main goals. These goals and actions build on the work already undertaken by the community, Council and its partners to celebrate the diversity of all cultures, faiths and ethnicities in this city."



Christchurch Mayor Lianne Dalziel launching the city's Multicultural Strategy last year

## An update - as told by Councillor Jimmy Chen

## The Council has a 'Diversity at Work' policy aimed at creating a workplace that attracts, retains and values employees from a diverse range of backgrounds. Its induction for all new staff includes a one day Diversity@Work workshop. Council has introduced Māori courses across the organization for ALL

- Council has introduced Māori courses across the organization for ALL staff, including Te Reo 101, Māori 101, and Ngāi Tahu 101.
- A Senior Leaders Forum in 2018 is scheduled to focus on the subject of unconscious bias what does my headscarf mean to you? Are you biased? Test yourself for hidden bias?
- Four out of seven community boards in the city have been gifted Māori
  - Banks Peninsula Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū.
  - Spreydon-Cashmere Waihoro
  - Linwood-Central-Heathcote Waikura
  - Coastal-Burwood Waitai
- Christchurch Civil Defence and Emergency Management is developing the Foreign Language Messaging project. The aim is to prepare and record emergency preparedness messages in various languages to be broadcast on community radio networks.
- Council's Multicultural sub-committee, established as the result of the Multicultural Strategy, is overseeing the implementation of this strategy and provides a platform for communities and sector agencies, council staff and government departments to raise issues of importance. Since its inaugural meeting in May 2017, the Committee has received delegations from over 20 community groups as well as the sector providers.
- Council invests a significant amount of community, arts and heritage grant funding and staff time supporting the city to showcase its ethnic and cultural diversity. This includes our regular iconic events such as Diwali, Holi, the Lantern Festival, Japan Day, Philippines Day, Drums of Africa, Korean Day and Culture Galore.
- The council is working with the Central Government to reinstate Christchurch and Refugee Settlement Centre put on hold after the Canterbury Earthquakes eight years ago.
- The Council is currently reviewing its International Relations, Heritage, Events and Arts policies. ■

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**Disclosure** - Christchurch City Councillor Jimmy Chen is also a member of Multicultural Times Advisory Board.

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## Haere Mai Welcome



Welcoming everyone with a smile (picture courtesy: ARMS)

**D**edicated to supporting the settlement of migrants, refugees and returning kiwis into the region, Auckland Regional Migrant Services Trust's (ARMS) initiatives and services are developed with connecting communities, promoting inclusion and community harmony in mind. Since 2003, the Trust's team of staff, volunteers and community partners have provided specialist settlement, orientation, training and employment services for over 30,000 clients.

At the heart of ARMS' projects is social cohesion and how the Trust can act as a catalyst to strengthen the hearts and build the capacity of our communities. Through community programmes that include; volunteering, events such as Race Relations Day and International Women's Day, workshops, tours and collaborations, the goal is to ensure isolated families, women and young people are supported so that they have positive aspirations for living and participating in New Zealand society.

ARMS' Chief Executive, Rochana Sheward believes that empowering people is a combination of connecting them to others in their community and supporting their development.

"The activities and initiatives we are involved in have multilaving outcomes and benefits that include fostering and connecting communities, celebrating the diversity within communities and ensuring the voices of smaller communities are heard. We are about generating ideas to help with any challenges resettled communities face and breaking down barriers that are foreseen and experienced. We also work towards capturing recurring themes that emerge to share with community leaders, stakeholders and the wider public so we can work together towards potential solutions," she says.

As one of the main barriers to settlement is employment, ARMS has a successful volunteer programme that assists newcomers with gaining New Zealand work experience. Additionally, the Trust hosts Job Search Workshops and Specialist Employment Workshops.

Administration Supervisor and Volunteer Manager, Sally Chu says volunteering is an effective route for newcomers to overcome a lack of New Zealand work experience in their job search.

#### **About Auckland Regional Migrant Services Trust** (ARMS)

We are a specialist settlement support agency, providing targeted programmes for skilled migrants, international students, other work visa holders, former refugees and their families. Our programmes and services are delivered in several locations across Auckland.

To find out more about ARMS visit https://settlement.org.nz

Media contact:

Rochana Sheward rochanas@arms.org.nz 09-625 2440

**Disclosure** - Eric Chuah, co-founder of Multicultural Times, is one of the Board of Trustees of Auckland Regional Migrant Services Charitable Trust.

"Volunteering not only provides a New Zealand based reference it also assists with understanding how the workplace operates. In addition to volunteering attending workshops like the interactive Job Search Workshop is effective. The workshop is designed to provide a clear job search pathway intended to help with navigating the New Zealand business culture and employment environment. You also get an opportunity to create a CV and cover letter suited for the jobs you're applying for," she says.

Collaborating and working closely with Auckland's service providers and community groups, ARMS' partnerships allow for the ongoing co-design of projects in response to community needs and trends. For the past eight years, the Trust has two flagship partnership programmes with Auckland Resettled Community Coalition (ARCC) offering the Safari Multicultural Playgroups and WISE Collective weekly hubs throughout Auckland. The WISE Collective supports refugee background women to develop the necessary knowledge, skills, confidence and resources to start-up or contribute to activities for generating income for their families through workshops, training programmes and an income generating catering service.

WISE Collective Project Coordinator, Sasi Syed Niyamathullah says WISE is about achieving transformative change in women's lives by focusing on the five 'E's; empowerment, education, employment, enterprise and equality.

"Many of the WISE women have attended a range of training's, learning opportunities and forums over the past years, including Food Handling Courses, Budgeting and Food Presentation, First Aid, Practical Driving Tips, Gardens4Health, Safety in the Community, Zumba and boxing sessions. Some of the women run regular ethnic food stalls at markets and events across Auckland. Their delicious food and catering is now in hot demand for festivals, events and meetings," she says.

The Trust also has a partnership with New Zealand Ethnic Women Trust for the AMARTE (Auckland Migrant and refugee Training Enterprise) programme that offers tailored hospitality training for women and supports them with barista skills, baking and regulations for the industry such as food control plans.

Thus far this year ARMS has successful looked after the Newcomers Network, hosted regular Service Provider Network Huis for service providers in the resettlement sector and launched a series of Civic Dinners in Auckland to encourage courageous conversations over food.

#### Did You Know...



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All Right? supports people to become more aware of their mental health and wellbeing, and to take small and regular steps to improve it.

All Right? is a Healthy Christchurch initiative led by the Canterbury District Health Board and the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand. The campaign was launched in February 2013 to support Cantabrians as the region recovers from the earthquakes.

All Right? is funded by the Ministry of Health and has also had support from the Ministry of Social Development and many other organisations including the Red Cross, SKIP, the Christchurch City Council and the Waimakariri District Council.

All Right? completes regular, indepth research into how Cantabrians are doing. This gives us a wealth of up-to-date knowledge about how people are feeling and the hurdles they are facing.

This research informs everything All Right? does from raising awareness among community groups, organisations and businesses, to creating tools that promote the things we can do to improve our wellbeing.

Remember it is all right to reach out for extra support. You are not alone and help is available. Just call 0800 777 846.

More information is at allright.org.nz

#### Are you All Right?

#### - Identifying the hurdles faced by refugee and migrant communities

#### **Help Canterbury** feel like home



Share a smile. Start a conversation. The little things you do can make a big difference.

Isolation and a lack of English are

among the issues facing people of

research from the All Right?

from refugee and migrant

communities in Christchurch.

migrant and refugee background in

Canterbury, according to qualitative

campaign. The research consisted of

six two-hour long discussion groups

and in-depth interviews with people

Participants came from a range of





countries including Somalia, Sudan, Korea, China and Bhutan.

All Right? manager Sue Turner said the findings make emotional reading. "Many of the participants have endured hardships most New Zealanders will never face. Sadly, we've found that those who come to Christchurch are also confronted with some major hurdles in their new life

The four big issues facing our refugee and migrant communities\* are:

#### 1) Lack of English

"You go to the shop but you don't know the name of the thing you want to get so you don't end up getting it. You get scared by not knowing what to say, so you just walk away."

#### 2) Isolation

"I went to university and I had no friend. People are already in groups. Every day I had to do everything by myself and I would just start crying."

#### 3) Being part of two cultures

"Alcohol is a big 'no-no' in my religion. In Kiwi culture, it's a big thing. I explain this to my friends. I've known them for a long time. They respect that, which is good."

#### 4) Feeling accepted

"If I can say one thing, please give us a chance before you judge us. Give me the opportunity to show you that I am ok, that I am just like you. Acceptance is all I want."

es from migrants and refugees living in Canterbury during qualitat rch by the All Right? campaign. Research released in April 2016.

here."

Among the issues are isolation with participants reporting that they found it very hard to make friends in Canterbury, a lack of English, the pressure of straddling two cultures (trying to understand and learn about Kiwi culture while trying to hold onto their own) and battling to feel accepted.

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#### **Eid Carnival brings people together in Christchurch**



Eid prayers in Christchurch (picture courtesy: Muslim Association of Canterbury)

Organised by three community organisations, the Eid Carnival held in Christchurch on June 16, at the Lincoln Events Centre, was a huge success. The evening event, which culminated with the end of Ramadan, was made possible by the tireless efforts of volunteers and office bearers of the Canterbury Muslim Community Trust (CMCT), Muslim Association of Canterbury (MAC), and National

Islamic Sister Assembly (NISA). Earlier in the day, Salat Idul Fitr (Eid prayers) were held at the Pioneer Stadium led by Imam Gamal of Masjid Al Noor of Christchurch, with takbeer starting at 7.30am, followed by

Meanwhile, with thousands attending, the Eid Carnival had something for everyone. It started with isha prayers, followed by an anasheed

performance. Minister for Greater Christchurch Regeneration Megan Woods was the chief guest. The winners of the Quran competition and Ramadan quiz received their prizes during the event too.

Apart from a gladiator pit, two bouncy castles, a tug-of-war competition, and several carnival games and races; an additional attraction this year which was a big hit - was the cutting edge virtual reality game. Especially for the ladies attending, there was a henna and face painting stall as well.

Another major attraction, the last of the night, was the futsal tournament with trophies and prizes for the winners. Additionally, Canterbury United Dragons Futsal men's team coach Mr Ronan Naicker ran a few introductory sessions and share with the attendee the skills, rules and techniques about the fastest growing sport in the world.

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DIVERSITAS



Diversitas conducting a workshop on D&I with the Department of Conservation (DOC)

# "Two Monologues Do Not Make A Dialogue." – Jeff Daly DIVERSITAS WWW.DIVERSITAS.CO



# Best practice approach to embedding D&I in the Department of Conservation - a case study

## Diverse and Inclusive organisations outshine their competitors by:



Achieving significant gains in employee engagement

Lifting performance and bottom line results

Leveraging diversity of thought to promote innovation

Attracting the best and brightest talent in the market

Better meeting the needs of their customers

As diversity consultants, we get the opportunity to work with a range of private and public sector organisations, many of whom are at different stages of evolution when it comes to D&I practice. For the last couple of months, we have been fortunate enough to work alongside the Department of Conservation (DOC) to deliver Unconscious Bias Awareness Training.

Having delivered similar workshops in many other organisations, we have the opportunity to see what really works and what doesn't and the approach that DOC has taken is worthy of a special mention.

What sets DOC apart is the strategic approach they are taking to D&I and the integrated way in which they are embedding their training in the overall D&I framework. Below we've outlined the work DOC is undertaking which not only reflects 'best practice', but also demonstrates a sincere commitment from the top to work towards being a leader in this space:

#### **Building the business case**

D&I Awareness sessions have been run country-wide, to socialise the D&I strategy and integrate it with business practices on the ground. This has created a line of sight for managers on what the overall aspirations are, and how the different regions and business units can contribute.

#### Undergoing training

Awareness training has been coupled with unconscious bias training, which has allowed participants to understand some of their own behaviours and how

to be more inclusive in their leadership approach. The result is managers who are informed about the benefits of D&I, have the tools to be more inclusive and are empowered to put strategies in place to leverage the diversity of their teams.

#### Leader led

Awareness and training started with the Senior Leadership team, followed by senior managers and the wider business. This shows a real integrity in the approach and a willingness for business leaders to put their money where their mouth is. It has created a sense of joint accountability between managers and employees to building a more diverse and inclusive culture.

#### Organisation-wide

Training and awareness has been taken to the furthest reaches of the business, with sessions held in all DOC locations, from the bottom of the South Island, to the top of the North. In short, it shows a sincere commitment to having real conversations across the organisation, and to develop strategies which are tailored and appropriate for the different regions.

#### Allocation of resources and budget

Time and resources have been allocated to getting the message out there. Dedicated DOC representatives from the OD and HR teams have attended all the sessions, alongside the Diversitas consultants. This has helped to contextualise the training and sends a strong message to the business that there is a real commitment to moving things forward.

#### Long term approach

Lou Sanson, the Director General, has committed resource, time and budget to increasing the diversity footprint and embedding inclusive practices across the organisation.

His view is that "diversity is the people side of sustainability" and he is proud of the work DOC are doing to create an organisation where "our staff reflect the diversity of the communities that we serve" and to create an environment where "we listen to the ideas and suggestions of all our people, give everyone equal access to opportunities and encourage diversity of thought".

Feedback from the business indicates that managers have found that the training delivered so far has built their self-awareness and opened their minds, and will ultimately help them to build stronger teams.

Diversitas is truly privileged to work with an organisation like DOC, who has a sincere commitment to building an organisation that is future-focussed and able to leverage the opportunities that New Zealand's diversity of talent has to offer. Thank you DOC, for allowing us to share your approach with other organisations, so that together we can move forward to leverage all that New Zealand has to offer.

**Disclosure** - Carol Brown, who is the CEO of Diversitas, is a member of the Advisory Board of Multicultural Times.

## Exercise your democratic right

#### - learn to use OIA and LGOIMA

#### What is it?

If you are seeking information from a minister, or central or local government agency, you may be able to ask for it under either the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) or the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).

The OIA and LGOIMA are laws in New Zealand that allow people to ask for official information held by Ministers and central and local government agencies (agencies). These laws set out how agencies should handle requests for information and give a right to anyone not happy with the result to complain to the Ombudsman.

The OIA applies to information requests made to Ministers and central government agencies.

The LGOIMA applies to local government information requests, and also sets out rights of access by the public to local government meetings.

These laws promote transparency and upholds New Zealand's democratic values by enabling members of the public (you and me) to request information from publicly-funded bodies and most importantly, for them to answer.

#### Why is it important?

The main purpose of the OIA is to increase progressively the availability of official information to the people of New Zealand in order:

- to enable their more effective participation
- to promote the accountability of Ministers and officials and so enhance respect for the law and to promote good government

#### Principle of availability

The starting point is that, unless there is good reason for withholding information, it must be made available on request. This is called the 'principle of availability'.

come unit include:

• city, discouncils

• councils

#### Who can request an OIA?

You can request an OIA if you are:

(i) A New Zealand citizen or permanent resident (ii) A person in New Zealand (iii) A cooperate entity (that is, a company or an incorporated society) which is either incorporated in New Zealand or has a place of business here.

#### What if I am not entitled to make an OIA request?

Even if you are not entitled to make an information request under the OIA (for example, if you are overseas and not a New Zealand citizen or resident), you can still ask an agency for information. While the agency is not required to respond in terms of the OIA, it should still deal with your request in a reasonable manner.

#### Who can I request official information from?

The types of agencies that come under the OIA include:

- government ministers in their official capacity;
- central government departments and
- organisations;
- the Police;
- crown entities;
- some state owned enterprises;
- district health boards;
- universities, polytechnics, colleges of education, wananga and other tertiary education institutions (but not private training establishments); and
- boards of trustees of state schools.

The types of agencies that come under the LGOIMA include:

- city, district and regional councils;
- council-controlled organisations;
- local and community boards;
- licensing trusts; and
- airport authorities.

#### How do I go about requesting an OIA?

The Office of the Ombudsman has a guide to making an official information request, including a letter template you can use for your request.

https://fyi.org.nz/ - is an
online website that helps you
make a request.

#### When can an organization withhold information?

Section 5 of the OIA law states that information shall be made available unless there is good reason for withholding it. Some of these reasons may include:

- to prejudice the security of New Zealand or its international relations
- to prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand

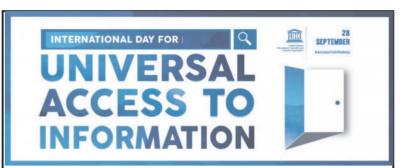
#### How long does an organisation have to get back to me?

Government agencies are generally legally bounded to get back to you within 20 working days. They are allowed to extend this period, but must inform you why this is.

You can read more about the OIA here:

http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1982/0156/latest/DLM64785.html

- by Elizabeth de Jonge



Since 2016, UNESCO - after adopted the resolution (38 C/70) - has marked September 28, of every year as International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI). IDUAI has particular relevance with the new 2030 Development Agenda, and in particular with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 16.10, which calls for ensuring public access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms. Universal access is also central to the UN's World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which recognized the ambition of developing inclusive knowledge societies.

#### Making a request

Making an information request is easy in New Zealand. Simply contact the relevant agency and ask for the information you are seeking.

#### What should a request for official information look like?

You do not need to use legal language when requesting official information.

A request does not need to be in writing—you can make requests in person or over the telephone.

You do not have to specifically state that your request is being made under the OIA or LGOIMA.

However, it may be helpful to make your request in writing and for you to be very clear that you are making a request for official information under the OIA or LGOIMA—it helps the person receiving the request to identify it quickly and make sure it goes to the right person within the agency to be actioned.

If you do make an oral

request, it may be helpful for you to make a note of what you requested, when you made your request, and who you spoke to at the agency. This may be useful for future reference.

If an agency considers that your oral request needs to be clarified in writing, it is entitled to ask you to do so. If you are unable or unwilling to do so, the agency is required to make a written record of its understanding of your request and to provide you with a copy of that written record. Your request will not be 'received' by the agency until you have confirmed that the agency's understanding of your oral request is correct. This means that the maximum time limit for responding to your request will not start counting until you have provided your confirmation.

There is also no requirement for you to give the reasons why you want the information.

information courtesyOffice of the Ombudsman

## Is your rental home insulated?

Rental homes must meet the insulation standards by July 2019 to avoid \$4,000 fines.





- by **Eve Price**, who is the manager for the Auckland Central centre of English Language Partners, one of 22 centres across the country. She comes from a multicultural and multi-lingual background herself and has been a migrant all her life. With a strong background in English teaching, she has been the manager for three years and is still learning and loving it.

Contact :-

Eve Price, Centre Manager English Language Partners Auckland Central Ph + 64 9 523 0071, 1A York St, PO Box 9320, Newmarket, Auckland 1149

www.englishlanguage.org.nz aucklandcentral@englishlanguage.org.nz

#### Want to learn English?

#### - English Language Partners can help

English Language Partners teach English, but with a difference. We teach English needed for settlement. In other words, we provide the language so people can participate in any way they wish in life in Aotearoa. It's learning English, and so much more. Our origins with the home tutoring programme are belied by our former name -ESOL Home Tutors. As we explain during the volunteer training, our home tutors become a gateway to New Zealand and can often be the only point of contact a learner might have outside of their

own community.

#### How are we structured

- Our general English classes are run in community venues across the country, particularly in areas without any other provision of English. Our aim is to reduce barriers so by going to where people are, we capture people who would otherwise miss out on a learning opportunity.
- To help people who are under-employed, by offering pre-employment and employment courses. This help people find work, or progress in their existing jobs once they

feel more comfortable and confident to aspire for roles matching their experience and qualifications.

- We do resume and cover letter writing for job-seekers as well.
- We also teach the most culturally appropriate language for attending an interview. Things such as what do Kiwi employers look for, what does confidence look like, what does overconfidence look like, what to say during a meeting etc.?
- employment courses. This help people find work, or progress are also shared to try and in their existing jobs once they

migrant exploitation that is coming to light nowadays.

• We tailor our services to learners' and business' needs, to help develop literacy and numeracy skills as well as English and cross-cultural communication. This directly impacts health and safety and productivity in a company.

#### How can you help

We are always interested in exploring the possibility of developing relationships with businesses, and other organisations to help us cater to newer developing trends as they emerge. We would love to hear from corporates and government agencies on how we can support them, and vice versa.

Individuals can also get in touch with us to volunteer, and help new Kiwis find their feet in the land of the long white cloud.

It's a great learning curve for our volunteers as well as our learners. An enriching journey indeed.

#### Language Line - telephone interpreting service

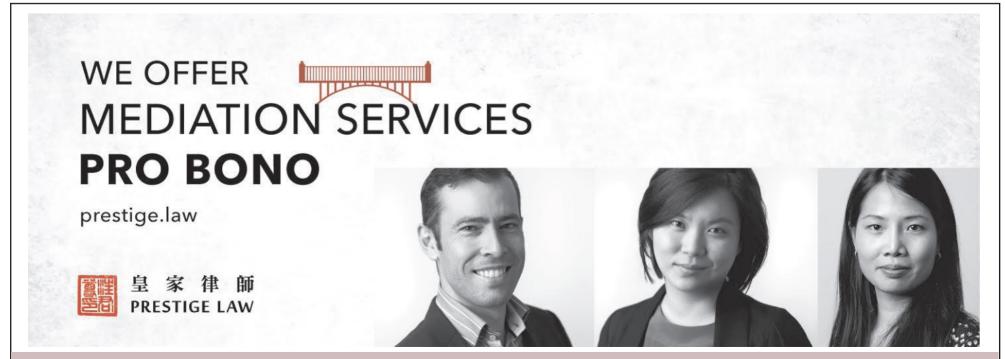
Monday to Friday 9.00am - 6.00pm and Saturday 9.00am - 2.00pm. Excluding New Zealand Statutory Holidays



The Office of Ethnic Communities

Te Tari Matawaka





We are starting a mediation programme to assist with the resolution of dispute before it goes to court or a hearing. As a start, we intend to offer two days of our time, each month, pro bono. We can take on a case, or cases that can potentially be resolved or have the issues better confined within one to two days, and for those who otherwise cannot afford mediation services or lawyers.

#### **AMERICA REX**

The future of NZ theatre has arrived.

Content on this page is courtesy JK Productions: He Korero Ngā Tahi

America Rex is a story about power, politics and personalities colliding in an epic drama that calls for a return to indigenous ways of knowing and belonging. Led by a diverse cast of New Zealand talent this is multidisciplinary collaborative production that invites the audience to imagine a different present - or relinquish ourselves to an inevitable future.

This important project recognises our communities need to come together to grapple with a changing landscape, to understand our responsibility to Papatuanuku and to respectfully filter the wisdom of the ages to our present. Our change is present, our power is now, and our future is here. As citizens who believe in endless possibilities - it is our time to speak out.

This is our story.

In 2001, Tom Minter dashed off a script that described a world in chaos.

Borders. Walls. Refugees. The

axis of the globe had tilted so far that it seemed nothing could ever return her to inner balance. Sensing little support in the then American political climate, Minter allowed his play to gather dust and moved on to other scripts. Fifteen vears later, after a very successful career with numerous productions of different works in London, New York, Berlin, Washington D.C and Philadelphia, Minter's latest script, Breathing Ash, had a staged reading at a small theatre in Manhattan.

It was at the after-party of this reading that he was introduced to a young New Zealand director and dramaturge. Dione Joseph was the first New Zealander to be awarded a place at the prestigious Lincoln Center's directorslab in 2014 and had been invited to Minter's reading by the director of the reading, Christopher Burris, also a Lincoln Centre director'slab alumni. That night, in a small apartment on the Upper West Side, Minter was moved to share his script, pulling it out of a sticky drawer and

#### "A true leader makes the best choices, out of none"

handing it over to a woman from half-way across the world.

It was a story that seemed eerily familiar.

Prescient almost. America Rex of 2001 might have indeed described the world we live in today. However, when Dione Joseph agreed to bring the production home to New Zealand at the end of 2016, she had no idea that the huge changes that would begin to shake the world, especially at the end of Obama's reign - were already written in the script.

America Rex is not merely a call for change. It is also, the answer to change. In this strikingly political drama, stories from around the world are brought right in front our eyes. In a first for New Zealand theatre, our performers and creatives of diverse heritage have a unique opportunity to join the conversation. In developing and creating this epic drama, ethnic creatives have the chance to move beyond the conventional tropes of migrant



**Director Dione Joseph (picture courtesy: Micael Loh)** 

journeys, re-location and resettlement narratives - all valued, legitimate and important - but begin to stride in a different direction to take risks, be ambitious and provocative.

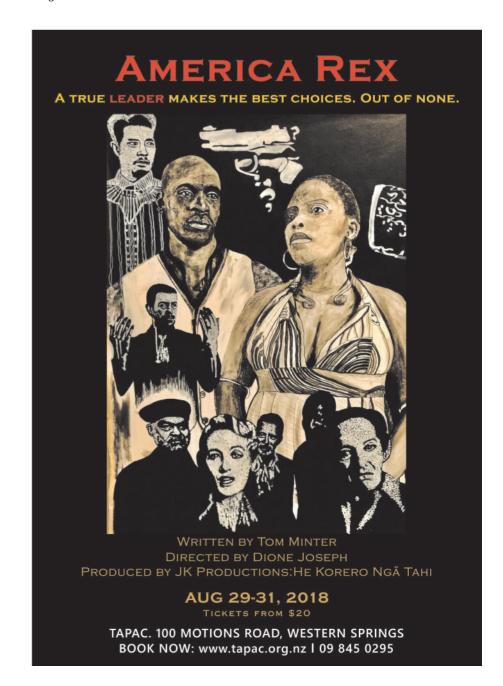
Written by African-American Tom Minter, this production showcases the power of international collaboration, across oceans, ages and defies boundaries inscribed by colonisation.

Led by Dione Joseph and Māori-Greek visual artist Jimmy James Kouratoras, the team includes original music by Grammy nominated composer Joe Mardin; African-American choreographer Otis Donovan Herring (formerly dancing with Black Grace); costumes by Zimbabwean fashionista Makanaka Tuwe; lighting and AV by local

shining light Amber Molloy; produced by Ahi Karunaharan, a leading Sri Lankan theatre producer; and supported by Colombian Production Manager Natascha Diaz. The cast include Lebanese opera and folk singer Eva-Maria Ghana as well as performers Graham Vincent, Sandra Zvenyika, James Maeva, David Capstick, Mel Odedra, Carl Drake, Kacie Stetson, Ruth Wynne, Joseph Wycoff, Mustaq Missouri and Chris Auva'a.

Produced by JK Productions: He Korero Ngā Tahi, this work is a call for a return to Indigenous ways of knowing and belonging and shines a light on the talent, brilliance and beauty of Aotearoa's diverse creatives - to tell our stories with sophistication, finesse and authority.





#### TE 'EPETOMA O TE REO MĀORI KŪKI ĀIRANI











"The Ministry for Pacific Peoples works closely with Pacific communities to maintain and promote heritage languages. Part of this work is the Ministry's support for Pacific Language Weeks, which have grown significantly since Samoan

Language Week was first celebrated in 2007.

#### **Pacific Languages Framework**

The vision of the Pacific Languages Framework is 'Pacific Languages Are Flourishing'. This vision will be realised by evidence of more people using Pacific languages with skill and fluency in everyday situations, particularly children and young people. Those Pacific languages now at risk will be revitalised, and their future assured. Pacific

peoples' sense of personal and cultural belonging in New communities will be working Zealand will be enhanced by the support given to Pacific languages. New Zealanders will appreciate and value Pacific languages as a source of pride in New Zealand's rich - courtesy Ministry for cultural diversity. The

**Pacific** 

Samoan May 27 - June 2

**Tongan** 

**Tuvaluan** 

Fijian

Niuean

**Tokelauan** 

**Cook Islands** July 29 - August 4

Language

**Weeks 2018:** 

September 2 - September 8

September 30 - October 6

October 7 - October 13

October 14 - October 20

October 21 - October 27

Government and Pacific in partnership to maintain and promote Pacific languages."

**Pacific Peoples** 

9 am Keep in touch under the blue







Enjoy the experience of mailing your postcard underwater, a lifelong memory that relegates email to a primitive culture. Enjoy the experience of sailing away in faraway thoughts while unwinding your knots under the pleasure of seasoned Malaysian hands, to the music of waves lapping the beach and breeze rustling the leaves. Now's the time, why wait?

Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board, Level 10, DLA Phillips Fox Tower, 205-209 Queen Street, Auckland 1010 NEW ZEALAND Tel: 09 309 6290 | Fax: 09 309 6292 | Email: enquiries@malaysiatourism.co.nz









## Why do we need more migrant data?

With more migrants arriving every year, how is New Zealand embracing diversity and integrating with migrants to make this country truly multicultural and inclusive?

A report from MBIE in 2015 titled "Community Perceptions of Migrants and Immigration" shared some positive and negative insights:

- 81% of those surveyed felt it is a good thing for any society to be made up of people from different races, religions and cultures. This is up from 80% in 2013, and 73% in 2011.
- Yet, 1 out of 3 surveyed there is lack of migrant integration into New Zealand society.

In addition, 76% surveyed felt New Zealand is welcoming to migrants, down from 79% in 2013 and 82% in 2011.

- And 85% of New Zealanders say they have friends from outside of New Zealand, down from 89% in 2013 and 90% in 2011.
- Interestingly, the number of New Zealanders attending ethnic cultural festivals increased from 42% in 2011 to 50% in 2013 and 55% in 2015.

However, there is no data and insights about migrants once

they arrive into New Zealand. For example, we do not know the challenges that they face, they support they need, or how they integrate with the society. From a corporate side, there is limited data to understand how migrants consider and purchase products and services, drivers for satisfaction or defection, and the holy grail customer loyalty.

It's one of the reasons why Cultural Connections was started as a social enterprise to illuminate some insights into migrants which makes up 25% of population. Some of our initial insights were:

- The most common challenge that migrants face is language and communication at 29%, yet only 17% of migrants are aware of the Language Line service offered by The Office of Ethnic Communities
- 46% of migrants felt unhappy when they first arrive in New Zealand, but that decreases significantly to 14% after settling down over several years.
- At least once a week, 2 out of 3 migrants will call a family or friend back home, eat at restaurants or buy groceries from home country, and

consume media from home country.

- Surprisingly, only 1 out of 3 migrants send money back home.
- Instead, more than 2 out of 3 migrants will travel back home or invite family and friends to visit New Zealand at least once a year.

We also asked migrants about some of the basic services from banks and telcos:

- 1 out of 3 migrants are unhappy with their current main bank, yet only 4% are willing to change their bank, suggesting the difficulty in switching banks.
- 1 out of 4 migrants are unhappy with their current mobile phone provider, and 10% of them are willing to switch to another provider in the next 12 months.

Ultimately, the goal is to develop a framework together with private and public entities to give migrants the highest possible chance to flourish and be happy in New Zealand.

After all, a happy migrant can only lead to a happy New Zealand. ■

#### Research findings

In the social research "Migrants and Volunteering in New Zealand", Cultural Connections collaborated with Volunteering New Zealand (VNZ) to understand how new migrants engage with volunteering.

### MIGRANTS AND VOLUNTEERING

A research study for the voluntary sector of New Zealand May 2018



**Volunteering** is fundamental to the functioning of society in New Zealand. With migrants making up **25%** of the New Zealand population, Volunteering New Zealand collaborated with Cultural Connections to better understand the way new migrants engage with volunteering.

#### **Volunteering NZ and Cultural Connections**

Volunteering New Zealand is the peak body for volunteering and is an association of volunteer centres and national and other organisations with a commitment to volunteering.

Cultural Connections is a multicultural research and consulting social enterprise.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Volunteering helps migrants to settle into New Zealand by building social cohesion though a sense of contribution and belonging.



We collected 91 responses in the span of 20 days. More than half had volunteering experience in birth country, and 1 in 3 migrants volunteered in first 12 months of arrival.

1 in 3 migrants found out about volunteering through friends or family, particular for those with a NZ European background. Only a small proportion of new migrants engage directly with charities to find their volunteering opportunities.

More than 3 in 4 migrants volunteered for intrinsic and social reasons, whilst 1 in 2 migrants volunteered in hope to gain local work experience.

2 in 3 migrants have never heard of Volunteering NZ, with many suggestions to improve awareness via advertising and promotion.

#### **EXPERIENCE AND BARRIERS**

7 out of 10 migrants would recommend volunteering. The top 3 most common barriers are time, knowing where to source reliable info, and volunteering location.

#### What does it mean for migrants?

To learn about the values, way of life in New Zealand, and integrate with local community, consider joining a volunteer organisation. VNZ website has a range of volunteer groups and locations that will suit you. Alternatively, you check out some of the multicultural community groups in Auckland and around New Zealand. (www.volunteeringnz.org.nz/)

#### What does it mean for volunteering organisations?

If you are seeking a specific migrant group for your organisation, then find out what is the best way of reaching them and how to communicate the benefits to them. Use the insights from this research to engage and connect with migrants.

#### **Current research**

# Calling all migrant entrepreneurs in New Zealand

Cultural Connections is currently running "Migrant Entrepreneurs in New Zealand" research, an initiative led by Auckland Regional Migrant Services (ARMS) in partnership with Auckland Council, and Immigration New Zealand. The purpose of this research is to help us better understand how migrants start their businesses and the challenges that they face. Migrants are defined as those who are born overseas but currently living in NZ. Results of this research will be published on ARMS and Cultural Connections website in August 2018.

You must be above 18 years old and running your own business in New Zealand to proceed. This survey should take about 10 minutes and you will be automatically entered

A.R. M.S.

Auckland Regional Migrant Services Charitable Trust





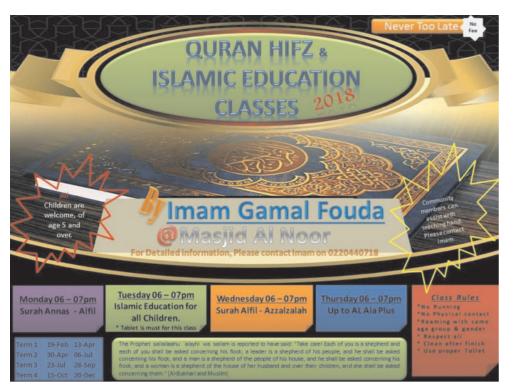
More details at www.cultural connections.co.nz/entrepreneurs/

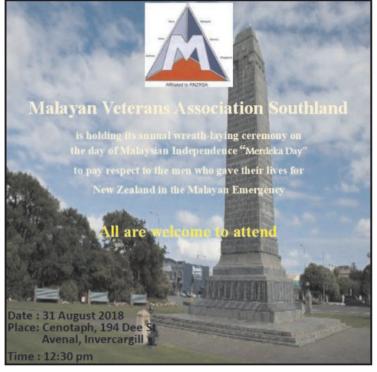
to win one of:

- 1 x Fitbit Alta valued at \$229.
- 2 x business clinic appointments with ATEED Business Advisor
- 3 x Business Growth Strategy sessions with Momentum.
- 2 x \$50 Prezzy Card
- All participants will also be invited to attend webinars or business workshops organised by BNZ.

**Disclosure** - Cultural Connections is owned by Eric Chuah, who is also the co-founder of Multicultural Times. What's on

August 1 - August 14, 2018
multiculturaltimes.news





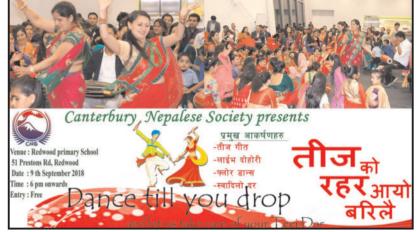
Notices in this section are published free of charge. Contact the editor if you have anything to share.

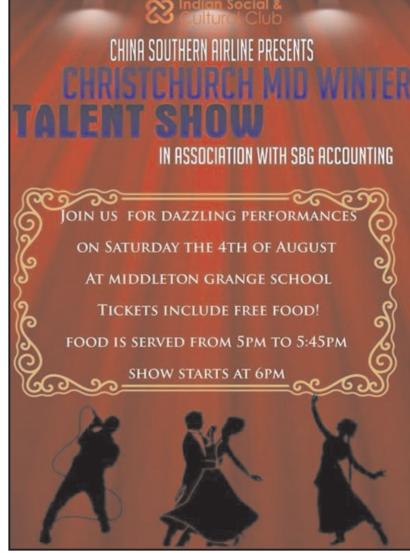
Friday Street Food Market is at the

Cathedral
Square in
Christchurch's
CBD every
week between
11am to 9pm
with more than
20 food trucks,
and live
entertainment.









## CELEBRATING

THE LAUNCH OF

## MULTICULTURAL TIMES

For over 175 years we've been supporting the communities we're part of. We're proud to be helping all communities in New Zealand succeed.

If you'd like to find out how we can help you succeed with our Migrant Banking Package, simply call us on 0800 269 296 or visit anz.co.nz/migrantpackage

