

# MULTICULTURAL NEW ZEALAND

# 2023 Impact Stories & Performance Report





MULTICULTURAL  
NEW ZEALAND

2023

Impact Stories &  
Performance Report

**New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated**

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- Humans Right Commission
- Ministry for Ethnic Communities
- Ministry of Justice
- New Zealand Police
- English Language Partners
- Hui E ! Community Aotearoa
- Migrants Action Trust
- Network Waitangi Otautahi ( NWO)
- Pacific Media Centre
- Victoria University Wellington
- Waitangi National Trust Board

New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils  
Patron's Report

**Tā Mark Solomon**  
(*Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Kuri*)



Tēnā koutou katoa

Multicultural New Zealand (MNZ) courageously navigates an elusive space in Aotearoa; multiculturalism within a bicultural context.

In September 1997, the aspiration to use Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the foundation for a multicultural Aotearoa was first expressed at the New Zealand Federation of Ethnic Councils' "Unity In Diversity – Towards The 21st Century" Conference. However at that time the way forward was still unclear.

It has taken 170 years for Māori to see tangata tiriti seriously consider and endeavour to understand their relationship to Te Tiriti. Multiculturalism within a bicultural context is ambitious considering we have never truly achieved biculturalism. However I am proud to congratulate MNZ in challenging the notion that this process must be viewed sequentially.

The demographics of New Zealand are changing. In 2026 the second population of New Zealand becomes Asian, and Māori become the third population. By 2026 Māori, Pasific Island, Asian and ethnic groups will be 42% of NZ's population. By 2050 that same grouping will be just over 50%.

MNZ undertakes work that demonstrates they take the implications of these trends seriously. The korero and attitudes present at the MNZ kaupapa I have attended this past year are cognisant and earnest. I commend Pancha and the team at MNZ for the acumen behind the Huarahi Hou Conference in May 2023, and encourage further conversations at that level.

In August 2023 it was my pleasure to host a group at Rehua Marae in Christchurch. It is always refreshing to take in the natural chemistry between te ao Māori and our multicultural communities that occurs in the whareniui, and the readiness with which they immerse themselves.

New Zealand has diversity, it is already here. What needs to be focused on now is learning how to respectfully work together. I believe MNZ is indeed on the path to growing within communities a turangawaewae with the right foundations, that must necessarily be seeded in the generations to come if we are to safely manoeuvre our way through a process of decolonisation together.

Ngā mihi

Tā Mark Solomon



## New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils President's Report

*Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari kē he toa takitini  
My success should not be bestowed onto me alone, it was not individual  
success but the success of a collective*



Tēnā koutou katoa. Greetings in all the languages of Iwi taketake that make up Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Aotearoa New Zealand. I contemplate a year marked by achievements in both strengthening existing foundations and propelling more modern networks forward. I extend my appreciation and recognition to:

- The multitude of volunteers and dedicated leaders across various regions. Their unwavering commitment and tireless efforts have been instrumental in navigating communities through times of continuous change.
- Our partners and funders in government, the community, and fellow NGOs. Their steadfast support and confidence have been invaluable assets on our journey towards progress and positive change.
- The exceptional executive team who have consistently risen to the challenges presented before us. Their wisdom, proactive approach and determination have been pivotal in creating a strong, united leadership networks in the communities.

Our efforts have been deeply concentrated on several novel projects that have demanded our full engagement. Standout achievements are no doubt headed by the Huarahi Hou conference and the launch of our national Noho Marae pilot. Significant recognition also goes to the community-led NAPAR wananga and the execution of highly successful women and youth conferences.

Our authentic volunteering attitudes have proved to be immense accomplishments, injecting a renewed sense of energy and purpose into the trajectory of our strategic journey. The resounding successes of this work resonates deeply within MNZ and beyond, marking a significant milestone in our journey toward decolonisation and a truly Tiriti-based multicultural Aotearoa.

Over the course of the year I have been compelled to reflect on the work of our forebearers and their contributions made in the last two decades. Our hikoi is to develop a New Zealand identity and turangawaewae through Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This hikoi is momentous albeit uncharted, but an inevitable one if we wish to see a safe and flourishing future for our children and grandchildren.

I am truly proud and privileged to see communities selflessly commit to this journey. I am looking forward to reflecting on our progress in the years ahead as we walk with open eyes toward 200 years of Te Tiriti. Leaders from diverse spheres are invigorated by the idea of collaboration with us, and this shared excitement holds promise for our collective vision and endeavours.

Ngā mihi aroha

Pancha Narayanan  
President (2022 – 2023)

**New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils**

# Achievements 2022-23

## 1. Relationships with Tangata Whenua

First and foremost, MNZ must recognise and honour the recent passing of the taniwha Dr. Ihakara Puketapu, who was a guide and kaumatua of the highest esteem for MNZ. His mana, matauranga, aroha and vision for a thriving whanau and multicultural New Zealand cannot be replaced. MNZ has also continued to work closely with Bill Hamilton and the National Iwi Chairs Forum and MNZ Patron Tā Mark Solomon, and through the Noho Marae programme are developing deeper relationships with many iwi and hapū rangatira across the country.

## 2. Serving and uniting the regions

MNZ continues to work in unity, with the national office continuing to work as a support office for the regions. This MNZ's efforts toward unity are reflected in the burgeoning strong relationships with Tairāwhiti and Aoraki, as well as the unanimous bid to form a Wellington Regional Multicultural Collective from the four RMCs present in the greater region. The Collective will be formalised in September 2023.



## Multicultural New Zealand Achievements

Strategic Plan

New RMCs

Funding

Advocacy

Relationships with Strategic Partners

Governance Training

Consultancy Work

Conflict Resolution

Digital Hub

Covid Free Communities

Huarahi Hui

Research

Newcomers Network/ Welcoming Communities

Strategic Planning Sessions

National Action Plan Against Racism

Auckland Multicultural Leadership Forum



### 3. New Regional Multicultural Councils

In August 2023 MNZ visited Taupo to support the induction of the Taupo Multicultural Communities Council. MNZ wishes them all the best and looks forward to working with them.

### 4. Working Relationships and Arrangements

- a. MoU Ministry Social Development (in progress)
- b. New Zealand Police (MoU partners with robust partnership)
- c. Ministry of Ethnic Communities (working towards closer working partnerships)
- d. Human Rights Commission (working towards closer working partnerships)
- e. Iwi Chairs Forum (working towards closer working partnerships)
- f. Ministry of Health (working towards closer working partnerships)

### 5. Huarahi Hou Conference

MNZ's national Huarahi Hou Conference held in Auckland in May 2023 was the most important event of the year, bringing together over 120 academics, rangatira, community leaders, government officials and politicians to address the pressing issues of immigration, cultural infrastructure and decolonisation in Aotearoa New Zealand. The conference declaration, a document detailing the whakaaro and calls to action from the two day conference, will be released in succession to MNZ's 8-Point Proviso to the 2023 incoming government.

### 6. Matariki

MNZ joined the four greater Wellington Region RMCs in hosting a Multicultural Matariki gathering in July 2023. MNZ gained significant publicity in mainstream media and was applauded for being ahead of many pakeha organisations and communities in embracing the New Zealand holiday.

### 7. Rainbow Council

MNZ has held conversations with Aadhikar Aotearoa and other ethnic LGBTQI+ community leaders around the safety and wellbeing of LGBTQI+ within New Zealand's ethnic communities. There is ample scope for MNZ to be focusing more in this area. The Federation will have a Rainbow Council added to the four existing special councils by the end of 2023.

### 8. Strategic Planning Sessions

MNZ has travelled to the regions to coach RMC Committees on Tiriti awareness and consolidating community needs into a strategic plan that aligns with MNZ's strategic priorities. We have now completed this with a total of fifteen RMCs.

### 9. Youth Camp

In December 2022 a Youth Camp was held in Kapiti for RMC youth delegates to grow their leadership skills and cohesion. The MNZ Youth Council's new membership had the opportunity to connect with the regional youth members and develop a national multicultural youth strategy.

### 10. Engagement Work

- a. MNZ took part in the first New Zealand PMDOS event to develop a roadmap to achieve high results within its strategic priority of Diversity in Volunteering.
- b. MNZ has submitted an application to develop a set of tools to measure institutional racism in New Zealand. The outcome will be known by the end of 2023.

### 11. Local NAPAR Wananga

In early 2023 the Ministry of Justice chose to halt further progress on the National Action Plan Against Racism until after the general elections. Together with NICF, MNZ has responded by initiating a pilot in local, community-led strategies against racism. Successful pilots ran in both Porirua and Oamaru with

the purpose of assessing the need and capability of the community to unpack and address the local issues surrounding racism. These pilots reaffirmed MNZ's challenge to MoJ that the community needs this work to be done now, not after the elections.

#### 12. Women's Wellbeing Framework

In August 2023 Womens Hui was held in Wellington for RMC woman delegates to revitalise woman leadership in the regions and review the Womens Wellbeing Framework as an effective approach to ensuring the wellbeing and flourishing of iwi taketake women in New Zealand. The Women's Council will be focusing on actioning the findings from the hui and forming a board to head the upcoming evaluation of the Women's Wellbeing Framework.

#### 13. Auckland Multicultural Leadership Forum

MNZ continues to facilitate the Auckland Leadership Forum, this year focusing on safety issues in Auckland and supporting Auckland community leaders to develop a strategic and cohesive approach to the wellbeing and stability of the Auckland communities. MNZ is proud to see the awareness of Tiriti-based Multiculturalism take root in the Auckland collective.

#### 14. Center for Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Aotearoa

Following on from last year's gathering, under the name of Communities Commission for Culture, Migration and Settlement, the group gathered again to discuss priority issues in the lead-up to general elections, such as achieving biculturalism, noho marae for incoming immigrants and former refugees, and decolonisation. The group has indicated their support for MNZ's upcoming 8-point Proviso to government, and the Huarahi Hou Conference Declaration.

#### 15. Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Day

MNZ continues to recognise the last Friday of August as Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Day. This was celebrated in a multitude of different ways around the country, with an estimated collective audience of 15,000. This includes the Ministry of Health's invitation to MNZ to join their gathering, with other government departments having also indicated their interest and support.

#### 16. Multicultural Football Tournament

MNZ is working with the NZ Police to plan a national Multicultural Football Tournament over the next 6 months and expects participation of teams put together by most regions. This is an opportunity to invite the multicultural communities to come together as part of a good-natured and universal activity where they are free to be proud in representing their home country or heritage.

#### 17. Covid Free Communities

MNZ has supported booster clinics to maintain vaccination rates across the country amidst growing covid-19 fatigue in the community, with five focus areas – Auckland region, Bay of Plenty, Hawkes Bay, Christchurch and Southland – but is also campaigning across New Zealand.

#### 18. Advocacy

MNZ continues to push for Government accountability through sharing with them finger-on-the-pulse views and calls to action through our growing network. Several Press releases have gone out, stretching the boundaries of Iwi Taketake visibility.







- a. Supporting the safety of minority communities
- b. Many cultures, one faith: Remembering the March 15th attacks
- c. Acknowledging the service of our leaders
- d. Celebrating the achievements and leadership of multicultural communities



## Measuring our Successes

In 2022 MNZ measured our successes against our values for the first time, on advice from tangata whenua. Last year MNZ made a top-down assessment, however this year we have provided bottom-up feedback from the Regional Multicultural Council membership.

We asked RMCs to tag projects, achievements and initiatives for the year against one or more of our collective strategic priorities and rate how well each of the E Tū Whānau values were embodied in each of these priorities. Out of 23 active RMCs, 21 participated in this feedback. This feedback provides MNZ with valuable insights enabling the Federation to plan effectively for the future and calculate where we need to invest our time and efforts, ensuring that our work is always moving toward a greater alignment with our values.

Strategic priorities	E Tu Whanau Values
<b>A</b> Safety for communities and their families	 <b>Aroha</b> <i>"Giving with no expectation of return"</i>
<b>B</b> Improved inclusion	 <b>Whanaungatanga</b> <i>"It's about being connected"</i>
<b>C</b> Sustainment and Modernisation	 <b>Whakapapa</b> <i>"Knowing who you are and where you belong"</i>
<b>D</b> NZ as a Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Society	 <b>Mana manaaki</b> <i>"Building the mana of others through nurturing, growing and challenging"</i>
<b>E</b> Participation in NZ Socioeconomics	 <b>Kōrero Awhi</b> <i>"Positive communication and actions"</i>
<b>F</b> Diversity in Volunteering	 <b>Tikanga</b> <i>"Doing things the right way, according to our values"</i>

## Measuring our Successes

As an organisation committed to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and Tiriti-based Multiculturalism, MNZ wants to measure our success using kaupapa Māori. MNZ has advocated for E Tū Whānau values in Aotearoa New Zealand's multicultural communities since their conception in 2009.

The six strategic objectives were devised in consultation with community leadership from around the country as part of MNZ’s Strategic Plan. They reflect the most pressing areas of need and growth among New Zealand’s migrant and former refugee communities.

In order to assist with consistent measurement, we gave the following affirmations against each of the E Tū Whānau Values:

- **Aroha:** We shared as many resources, funds, time (listening or guiding), and connections as we could with those who needed it
- **Whanaungatanga:** Our community networks were grown and enhanced by this work, our RMC has grown and strengthened its membership.
- **Whakapapa:** People were able to improve their sense of belonging and identity through this work, we know the history of our group and local communities well.
- **Mana Manaaki:** We have extended our support to communities in trouble every time there was an opportunity. We have actively stood up for people or communities who were treated or viewed unjustly.
- **Kōrero Awhi:** We centered and represented marginalized voices, we navigated any conflicts and differences with compassion and clarity, we communicated with our partners and each other effectively and respectfully.
- **Tikanga:** We practice governance with awareness and integrity and have found ways to improve this year. We have done a great job of helping communities learn about E Tū Whānau values and other New Zealand ways of doing things.

Legend			
Under developed	Developing	Well developed	Fully developed
<i>"We have not thought or spoken about this yet"</i>	<i>"We have done some discussion and planning around this"</i>	<i>"We have practiced these things at least once this year"</i>	<i>"We practice these things on a regular basis."</i>

### A). Safety for communities and their families

1. RMCs and their communities have easy access to information and services in as many languages as possible
2. MNZ understanding and communicating to the public of New Zealand cultural context associated with safety to the public of New Zealand
3. Understand the needs of the vulnerable in the communities that RMCs work with



**Aroha**

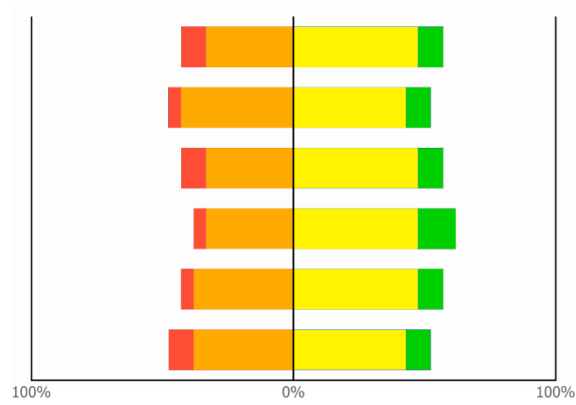
**Whanaungatanga**

**Whakapapa**

**Mana manaaki**

**Kōrero Awhi**

**Tikanga**



## **B). Improved Inclusion**

1. *MNZ will support all efforts to eradicate institutional racism and discrimination*
2. *Put in place action plans for the major metropolitan cities*
3. *Invest in a digital hub to bring together all communities in New Zealand*
4. *Develop objectives and reportable metrics for public presentation of our volunteering effectiveness*
5. *Modernising attitudes of host communities toward migrants*

**Aroha**

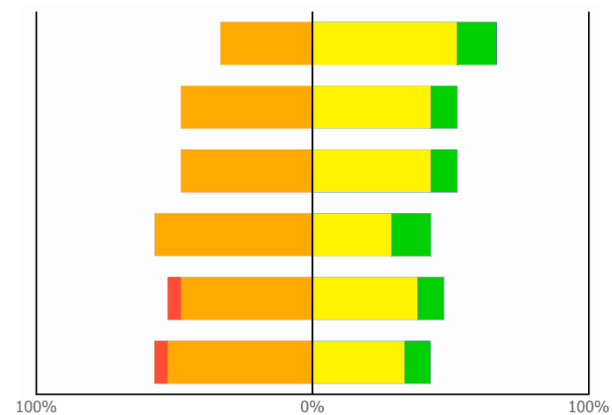
**Whanaungatanga**

**Whakapapa**

**Mana manaaki**

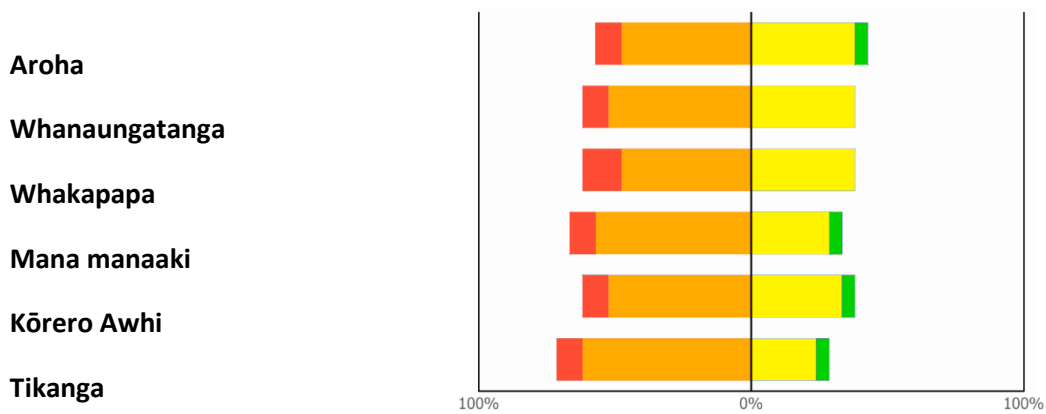
**Kōrero Awhi**

**Tikanga**



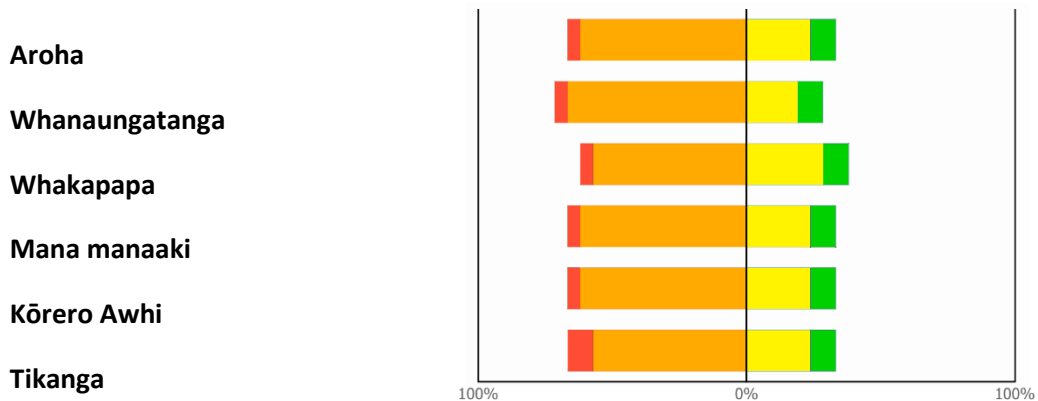
## **C). Sustainment and Modernisation**

1. *Continue to grow MNZ profile across all channels, notably digital, so we become a household name*
2. *Secure long-term funding*
3. *MNZ operating as a social enterprise*
4. *Establish 5 new Regional Multicultural Councils*
5. *Build new collaborative relationships*
6. *Bringing MNZ and NZNN networks*



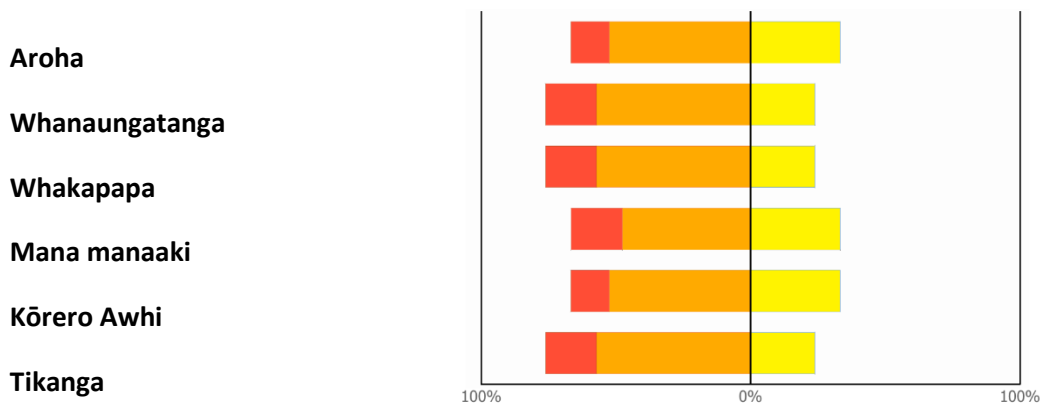
### D). NZ as a Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Society

1. Ensure governance and management practices within MNZ to acknowledge Tikanga Māori
2. Ensure legislation, regulations and policies in New Zealand demonstrate cultural sensitivity
3. MNZ to have a strategic longterm relationship with tangata whenua
4. Support RMCs and communities to adopt E Tū Whānau values as their basis for community safety
5. Improve relationship with tangata whenua



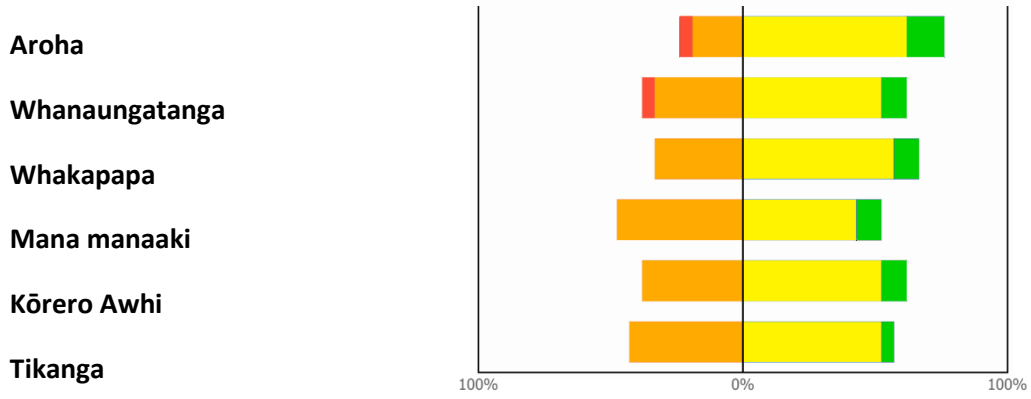
### E). Participation in NZ Socioeconomics

1. Ensuring the success of migrant businesses
2. Equitable policy for health, education, social services, justice and employment



## F). Diversity in Volunteering

1. *Strengthening and resourcing RMC NZNN volunteer networks*
2. *Developing resources to equip volunteers professionally*
3. *Improving cultural fit of volunteering to expand diversity among volunteers*



# MNZ Office Report

## Introduction

In pursuit of operational excellence and sustained growth, this report presents an overview of the recent initiatives undertaken to improve high-level systems, enhance efficiency, and foster better communication within MNZ. During this period, MNZ Executive insights and guidance was invaluable as we continued our journey toward optimising our processes and achieving seamless collaboration.

## High-Level Systems Improvement

Over the past year, a comprehensive assessment of our existing systems was conducted, identifying key areas for improvement. This included streamlining workflow processes, integrating disparate software platforms, and modernizing legacy systems. These changes have already begun to yield positive results, reducing bottlenecks, and enhancing overall productivity. By adopting an agile approach to system enhancement, we have positioned ourselves to adapt swiftly to changing multicultural communities' dynamics.

## Efficiency Enhancement

Our drive for efficiency gains led to the implementation of several targeted strategies. Elimination of redundant tasks and the optimisation of resource allocation was done. Additionally, cross-functional approach was adopted to address complex challenges, promoting collaboration, and enabling the sharing of best practices. These efforts have contributed to a notable increase in operational efficiency, as evidenced by reduced lead times and improved output quality.

## Communication Enhancement

Effective communication is at the heart of organisational success. Recognising this, we launched an internal communication overhaul. We have benefitted from a unified digital platform, consolidating updates, and project-related information. Regular meetings were introduced, providing a direct line of communication. The impact of these changes is evident in heightened transparency, increased engagement, and a more aligned workload.

## Feedback and Continuous Improvement

To ensure ongoing progress, feedback loops have been established. Regular surveys and feedback sessions are enabling us to identify potential roadblocks and fine-tune our initiatives. Furthermore, continuous improvement methodologies are being integrated into our approach, allowing us to iteratively refine our systems, processes, and communication channels based on real-time insights.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, our concerted efforts to enhance high-level systems, drive efficiency, and improve communication are yielding tangible benefits for MNZ. With your continued guidance and support, we are confident that these initiatives will serve as the foundation for sustained growth and excellence. As we move forward, we remain committed to adapting to challenges and capitalising on opportunities in an ever-evolving multicultural ethos.

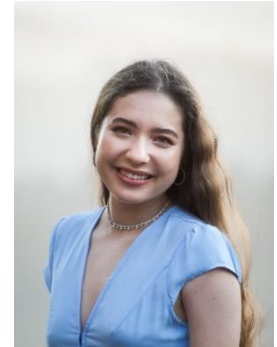
Special thanks to office staff Ariane Tkalec (left MNZ in November 2022), Aaron Baker, Rebecca Leete and Yuko Kondo (joined MNZ in February 2023).

**Gurtej Singh**  
**Head of Operations, National Office**  
**MNZ**



# Intern's Report

As an intern for Multicultural New Zealand, I was able to write a research paper detailing how NGOs can participate in activities that would support the South Pacific Islands with adverse climate crisis effects. Before I arrived, I was unsure of what to expect and I was happy to discover that I had the opportunity to participate in a variety of events alongside writing the research paper. Everything that I learned felt meaningful as it expanded on current social issues and enabled me to consider new interpretations of them.



Alongside the research paper, there were four events that I learned from: the Women's Wellbeing Hui, Healthcare Hui, the Noho Marae, and a lecture at the Police College about Hate Crime protocols.

## Women's Hui

Throughout the Women's Wellbeing Framework Hui, I learned a lot about the intersectional challenges that women encounter in society and the pathways that communities can take to support them. In the hui, many speakers highlighted the significance of understanding that whole family units are victims of violence alongside the perpetrators of the violence. With these aspects in mind, the women's hui emphasized the importance of uplifting women and supporting them through various life challenges.

## Health Hui

At the Health Hui, accessibility to healthcare and the impact of this on particular demographics — Asian and Ethnic communities — was discussed. A lot of focus was centered on identifying institutional and systemic factors which may be restricting access to healthcare. It was interesting to see the similarities in struggles across New Zealand and the US. Though encompassing vastly different healthcare systems, they experience endemic problems caused by the presence of racism.

## Noho Marae

Spending time at the Noho Marae was an enlightening experience and provided insight to me about the significance of Māori cultural practices within society. When Taa Mark embarked on telling the oral history of his family, it was impressive to note the incredible amount of detail included for stories that spanned multiple generations of families. To understand one's culture in that manner speaks to the deep connection that Māori have to their whanau and the environment around them.

## Police College

In the lecture on Hate Crimes at the Police College, I had the opportunity to learn about the difference between hate crimes, incidents, and speech. It especially emphasized the importance of accurately reporting hate crimes and acknowledging the perspective of the victim. Though many of the hate crime protocols are new and an expanding area, I believe they will occupy an important space for distributing equity in communities. I appreciated learning that New Zealand prioritizes more community-based forms of policing and that there is a growing dedication to reducing institutional inequalities in policing.

**Rachel Delaney**

**University of California, Davis, CA**



## Multicultural Whangārei

### Chairperson's Report

Kia ora

I am pleased to present the Chairperson's Report for Multicultural Whangārei, highlighting our achievements, challenges, and future plans over the past year.

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to our dedicated members, volunteers, and staff who have worked tirelessly to promote unity and foster a sense of belonging within our diverse community. Your commitment and passion have been instrumental in our success.

Over the past year, Multicultural Whangārei has continued to make significant strides in achieving our mission of creating an inclusive and harmonious society. We have organized various events and initiatives that celebrate cultural diversity and promote cross-cultural understanding.

A couple of our major accomplishments was the successful organization of the Matariki Dawn ceremony, Multicultural New Zealand Day, Football Tournament, which brought together people from many different backgrounds to showcase traditions, music, dance, and cuisine. The events not only provided a platform for cultural exchange but also fostered a sense of unity and appreciation for our diverse community. In addition to these events, we have conducted workshops and seminars on cultural awareness, diversity training, and language classes. These initiatives have helped to bridge the gap between different cultures and promote mutual respect and understanding.

Despite our achievements, we have also faced challenges. The new year brought with it a series of unprecedented weather systems with Cyclone Gabriel that significantly impacted our operations, again like COVID forcing us to adapt and find innovative ways to continue our work. We have shifted Many of our events and programs online, utilizing digital platforms to engage with our members and the wider community. While this has presented its own set of challenges, it has also opened up new opportunities for us to reach a broader audience.

Looking ahead, we have exciting plans for the coming year. We aim to expand our outreach programs, particularly with Rangatahi and ethnic organisations including Tangata Whenua, to promote cultural diversity and inclusivity among the younger generation. We also plan to collaborate with local businesses and organizations to create employment and networking opportunities for migrants and refugees.

Furthermore, we will continue to advocate for policies and initiatives that support multiculturalism and address the needs of our diverse community. We will actively engage with local government bodies, community leaders, and stakeholders to ensure that the voices of our members are heard, and their concerns are addressed.

In conclusion, I am proud of the achievements of Multicultural Whangārei over the past year. Our commitment to promoting multiculturalism and fostering a sense of belonging has made a positive impact on our community. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our members, volunteers, and supporters for their unwavering dedication and support.

Together, let us continue to build a society that embraces diversity and celebrates the richness of our multicultural community.

Ngā mihi,

**Marion Kerepeti Edwards**  
**Chairperson**  
**Multicultural Whangārei**

## **Centre Coordinator's Report**

On behalf of Multicultural Whangārei. I am pleased to present the Annual Centre Coordinator's Report for 2023.

Over the years, Multicultural Whangārei has made significant strides in promoting cultural diversity, inclusiveness, and community engagement. The commitment to core values like Manaakitanga, Whakawhanaungatanga, Aroha, and Tikanga remains steady and reflects our dedication to creating a welcoming and supportive environment for all.

Throughout the year, we have organised and held classes, workshops and events that bring together individuals from diverse cultures and backgrounds which highlight our commitment to fostering an inviting environment of cultural exchange and understanding. Our services (while addressing the needs of migrants in a practical and caring approach), are aimed at helping newcomers settle into the community.

Multicultural Whangārei continues to forge and maintain partnerships with local community organisations, government agencies, and local businesses. Thus, resulting in joint initiatives and collaborations, that lead to innovative projects and a broader reach within the community.

Our hope looking forward, is to continue as a vibrant centre of community engagement. A place where people are empowered, supported, and feel a sense of belonging. An environment that promotes inclusiveness and celebrates diversity here in our community.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated volunteers, staff, governance committee, supportive partners, funders, and the community members who have utilised the Multicultural Whangārei centre and participated in our classes, events, and programs. Your contributions are the driving force behind our success.

**Suzzette Monroe**  
**Centre Coordinator, Education Coordinator**  
**Multicultural Whangārei**

## Who We Are

Multicultural Whangārei is a not-for-profit community-based organisation that supports migrants and newcomers to Whangārei with their settlement process. We also promote positive race relations through community education, ensuring people of all ethnicities feel able to actively contribute to their adopted community.

## Our Mission

### Te Kaupapa

We support newcomers to settle into Taitokerau as Tangata Te Tiriti and promote whakawhanaungatanga with Tangata Whenua. We celebrate Cultural Diversity and the wisdom this brings to help strengthen our communities.

## Our Vision

A community where everyone feels welcomed and supported.

## Our Team

### Governance Committee

**Marion Kerepeti Edwards**

Chairperson

**Sandeep Diwan**

Vice Chairperson

**Sue-Anne Moo**

Secretary

**Devika Shukla**

Governance Executive Officer

Committee Members

**Ligimamilli Pakieto-Johnstone**

**Obi Khanal**

**Sumeili Morgan**

### Operations

**Suzzette Monroe**

Centre Coordinator & Education Coordinator

**Nataly Cardoso**

Kaimanaaki (Accounting)

**Astrid Kelly**

Kaimanaaki (Design & Media)

**Waana Reihana**

Navigator (Employment/Advocacy)

**Amber Brown**

Whangārei Community Refugee

Resettlement Programme Coordinator

## Our Services

- Adult Community Education Classes and Workshops
- Drop-in Centre
- Employment Services, Support & Advocacy
- Free Access to Computers/Wifi for the Community
- Newcomers Network
- Weekly Free Drop-in Session with a Licenced Immigration Advisor



# Our Classes



**Beginners ARABIC Class**

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, 11AM-12PM  
37 BANK STREET, LEVEL 1, CIVIC ARCADE

Multicultural Whangārei FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
P: 09 430 0571 E: INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ



Multicultural Whangārei  
An Informal Writing Group

**CREATIVE WRITING GROUP**

THURSDAYS  
11 AM - 12 PM

MULTICULTURAL WHANGĀREI  
37 BANK ST, CIVIC ARCADE (UPSTAIRS)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
P: 09 430 0571 E: INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ



Multicultural Whangārei

**ENGLISH CONVERSATION**

The best way to learn a language is to practise speaking it and have a conversation with others!

THURSDAYS  
9:30AM - 10:45 AM  
2023 TERM 1  
STARTS 9 FEB 2023

MULTICULTURAL WHANGĀREI  
37 BANK ST, CIVIC ARCADE (UPSTAIRS)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
P: 09 430 0571 E: INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ



**EVERYDAY DIGITAL**

Beginner to Intermediate Level

COMPUTER FUNDAMENTALS  
• MICROSOFT 365 AND APPS  
• GOOGLE SUITE

CREATIVE DIGITAL  
• CANVA DESIGNS  
• SOCIAL MEDIA

SMALL GROUP / ONE-TO-ONE

LIMITED SPACE  
PLEASE REGISTER  
INTEREST.

MONDAYS  
9AM - 11AM

Multicultural Whangārei  
37 BANK ST  
CIVIC ARCADE (UPSTAIRS)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
P: 09 430 0571  
E: INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ



Multicultural Whangārei

**UNDERSTANDING TE TIRITI**

MONDAYS | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

37 BANK ST, CIVIC ARCADE (UPSTAIRS)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
P: 09 430 0571 E: INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ



Multicultural Whangārei

**BEGINNERS SPANISH**  
*Bienvenidos Todos*

TUESDAYS, 12:30PM-2PM

MULTICULTURAL WHANGĀREI  
37 BANK ST, CIVIC ARCADE (UPSTAIRS)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
P: 09 430 0571  
E: INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ



**CREATING WITH LOVE**

AN ART WORKSHOP

Explore your creativity in a peaceful and friendly environment.

THURSDAYS  
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM



**ENGLISH FOR EVERYDAY LIVING**

TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

- INTERMEDIATE  
9:00 AM - 10:40 AM
- BEGINNERS  
11:00 AM - 11:40 AM

Multicultural Whangārei  
37 BANK ST., CIVIC ARCADE (UPSTAIRS)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
P: 09 430 0571 E: INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ



**TE REO MĀORI**

[ VIA ZOOM ]

WEDNESDAYS  
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
[ DURING SCHOOL TERMS ONLY ]

Multicultural Whangārei  
37 BANK ST, CIVIC ARCADE (UPSTAIRS)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
P: 09 430 0571 E: INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ



Multicultural Whangārei

**Waiata MĀORI**

EVERY WEDNESDAYS  
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

# Our Programmes

## Whangārei Community Refugee Resettlement Programme

The NZ government's Refugee Sponsorship Programme has allowed organisations and communities from around New Zealand (outside of the current resettlement areas/programs and annual quota) to be able to become approved as sponsors for refugees and welcome them to their area.

To become approved, organisations need to demonstrate specific criteria and action plans on how they would help support new arrivals during their first 2 years - this includes some financial support, help to find housing, building community networks, employment search support, connections to Te Ao Māori and ensuring the refugee(s) can access support services. We are happy to announce that Multicultural Whangārei has become an Approved Sponsor under the Community Refugee Sponsorship Programme. Thank you to Foundation North for their support.



Nimo is the first in our program to have arrived. Originally from Somalia, Nimo has been a refugee in Indonesia for the past 7 years however, she now calls New Zealand home.

## Mauri Ora in Collaboration with New Focus NZ

Multicultural Whangārei in partnership with New Focus NZ is providing 6 free wellbeing sessions for individuals who are part of Whangārei's migrant community. This 1:1 confidential support includes help with:

- Transition into a new country/culture
- Connectivity – building community – making friends
- Practical advice for day-to-day challenges
- Career change
- Healthy lifestyle
- Confidence
- Or just someone to talk to

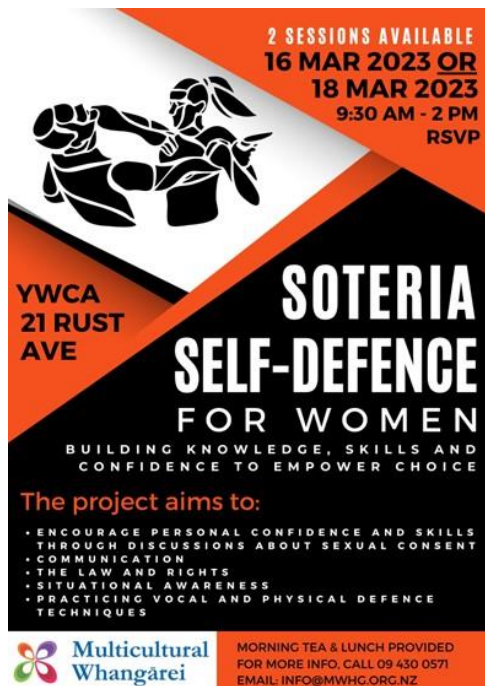
This service is available for FREE whether you have recently arrived or have been living in New Zealand for several years.





# Our Workshops

## Soteria Self-Defence for Women



2 SESSIONS AVAILABLE  
**16 MAR 2023 OR**  
**18 MAR 2023**  
 9:30 AM - 2 PM  
 RSVP

**YWCA**  
 21 RUST  
 AVE

**SOTERIA**  
**SELF-DEFENCE**  
**FOR WOMEN**

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND  
 CONFIDENCE TO EMPOWER CHOICE

The project aims to:

- ENCOURAGE PERSONAL CONFIDENCE AND SKILLS THROUGH DISCUSSIONS ABOUT SEXUAL CONSENT
- COMMUNICATION
- THE LAW AND RIGHTS
- SITUATIONAL AWARENESS
- PRACTICING VOCAL AND PHYSICAL DEFENCE TECHNIQUES

Multicultural Whangārei MORNING TEA & LUNCH PROVIDED FOR MORE INFO, CALL 09 430 0571 EMAIL: INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ



The goal of this workshop is to help build knowledge, skills, confidence, and to empower choice, encourage personal confidence and skills through discussions about sexual consent, communication, the law and rights, situational awareness, as well as practicing vocal and physical defence technique.

Thank you to our amazing facilitator Sharna, for delivering an awesome workshop! Participants who attended found the workshop extremely beneficial, feeling more empowered and confident in themselves.

## Italian Cuisine Workshops



**Italian**  
**CUISINE WORKSHOP**  
 with Chef Giorgio Ridolfi  
 A 3-part series workshop  
 Learn to cook Italian food three ways

PRIMI PIATTI	SECONDI PIATTI	DOLCE
		
<b>MONDAY</b> 8 MAY 2023 10AM-12:30 PM	<b>MONDAY</b> 12 JUNE 2023 10AM-12:30 PM	<b>MONDAY</b> 10 JULY 2023 10AM-12:30 PM

Hope Whangārei, 1 Hunt Street

This is a free workshop. Limited spaces and registration is required.  
(Disclaimer: Images are for illustration purposes only.)

For more info, Multicultural Whangārei at 09 430 0751 | info@mwhg.org.nz

Multicultural Whangārei Giorgio Artisanal Product

Italian Cuisine Workshop with Chef Giorgio Ridolfi, a three-part series where participants learned how to prepare and cook three courses of Italian dishes.





# Community Events and Gatherings

## 2022

### Whangārei Ethnic Football Festival

Our annual Ethnic Football Festival returned on 6th November 2022 after a year's absence. We are grateful to Mo Atiq (NZ Police) and Don McDonald Spice (Tikipunga FC) for working alongside, ensuring a well organised event. There was a total of 18 teams at the festival.

Thank you to everyone who participated and a huge congratulation to this year's winners.





## Festival of Christmas Trees



Multicultural Whangārei Christmas tree of flags at the annual Festival of Christmas Trees coordinated and hosted by St John's Golden Church in Kensington.

## Christmas Dinner





# 2023

## Tutukaka Music Festival – 14 January 2023

We enjoyed summer vibes and fun times while celebrating alongside Latinos En Whangārei at the Our People in the Park Festival in Tutukaka.



## The Treaty of Waitangi in our Language



Dr Ingrid Huygens of Treaty People (from Hamilton) personally delivered the Treaty of Waitangi in Our Language resource to the centre. This resource is available in several languages and truly an asset to our Multicultural whanau.





## Kiwi Whakawātea and Mating Ceremony



It was our honour to be invited to name a Kiwi released on Sunday, 5 March. Multicultural Whangārei named the kiwi 'Om'.

Om or aum (pronounced ah-uu-mm) is a sacred sound considered by many ancient philosophical texts to be the sound of the universe, encompassing all other sounds within it. Om means love, eternity, purity, peace.

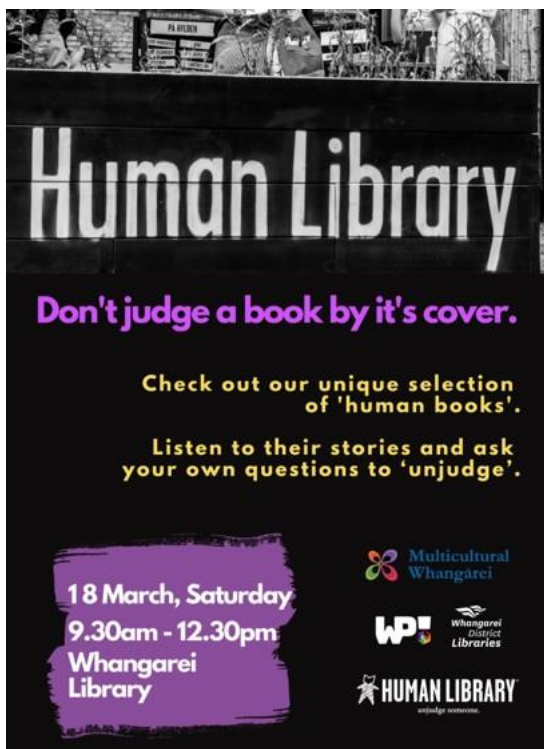
Thank you, Obi Khanal, Su Mei Li Morgan and Waana Reihana for representing Multicultural Whangārei.

Thank you, Matua Fred Tito for connecting us, Matakohe Limestone Island for the photos, Backyard Kiwi and Kiwi Coast for hosting the event.





## Race Relations Day + Human Library



In commemoration of Race Relations Day, we participated in Human Library event hosted by the Whangārei District Library last 18th March 2023. Thank you to Verena Pschorn for organising the event. Our very own Waana published her first two books at the event with titles 50+ Student & Māori Growing Up Without Te Reo.



Thank you to everyone who joined us at St Stephen's Church in celebration of Matariki. We are extremely grateful to the Onerahi Community and Fred Tito for their warm welcome. Thank you also to Shaquille Shortland, Sharneece Joyce, and Wayan Balinese for your support and service to our community. We also acknowledge the presence of Hon. Mayor Vince Cocurullo and Councillor Nicholas Connop.





## Whangārei Volunteer Fair

An occasion to highlight Whangārei's community organisations and an opportunity to honour and celebrate the amazing team of volunteers for their commitment and dedication to our community.

Volunteering Northland held their first Whangārei Volunteer Fair on the 24th of June in celebration.

of National Volunteer Week. We popped-up our stall and enjoyed a great event meeting other organisations who also participated. We nominated Jos Polman and Logan Carter (individual/innovation); and the Multicultural Whangārei Governance Committee (team) for their contributions to Multicultural Whangārei in the Kaimahi Aroha/Volunteer Award.

Accepting the award are Sandeep Diwan (Vice Chairperson) and Su Mei Li (Committee Member).



## Monthly Shared Lunch



Multicultural Whangārei

# Shared Lunch

Come and share lunch with us!  
Get connected with the community.

The last Tuesday of every month.  
**12:00 PM to 1:00 PM**

37 Bank Street, Civic Arcade (upstairs) 09 430 0571



*International Women's Day*

Join us for a pot luck lunch to celebrate this special day.

Date: Wednesday 8th March  
 Venue: Community Hub, Level 1, Civic Arcade, Bank Street.  
 Time: 12:00 pm



WINGS  
 Multicultural Whangārei



## Upcoming Events

Multicultural Whangārei has the honour of hosting the 21st Latin America and Spain Film Festival 2023, featuring eight movies from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, and Spain.

**LASFF**  
 LATIN AMERICA & SPAIN  
 FILM FESTIVAL

**21ST**  
**LATIN AMERICA & SPAIN**  
**FILM FESTIVAL**  
 SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2023

LASFF is an annual non-profit event which aims to bring together Latin American, Spanish and other New Zealand communities through the big screen.

**FREE ENTRY**




VISIT [WWW.LASFFNZ.CO.NZ](http://WWW.LASFFNZ.CO.NZ) FOR MOVIE DETAILS

**VENUE** ONE SIX SIX  
 166A BANK STREET WHANGĀREI

REGISTER AT [www.eventfinda.co.nz](http://www.eventfinda.co.nz)

Multicultural Whangārei

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT  
 P. 09 430 0571 | E. [INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ](mailto:INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ)



**MULTICULTURAL DAY**

Celebrating Cultural Diversity in our Community

FOOD | PERFORMANCES | MUSIC  
**SATURDAY, 26 AUGUST 2023 | 10 AM - 12 PM**  
 WHANGĀREI CENTRAL LIBRARY

Multicultural Whangārei

Whangārei District Libraries

E: [INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ](mailto:INFO@MWHG.ORG.NZ) | P: 09 430 0571

Multicultural Day Celebrations



## Multicultural Council of Wellington

Kia ora, and warm greetings to all,

Many thanks to each of everyone for your ongoing kind support to me and the Executive team of the Multicultural Council of Wellington. In collaboration with our community members and stakeholders, I am absolutely privileged to continue to serve the MCW whānau as the President.

It's great to re-connect with our communities through events, meetings, and functions after few challenging years due to the Covid19 pandemic. The communities' health and well-being are our priority, so we provided masks and RATs to communities and organised multicultural communities vaccine uptake event and health and wellness seminar. We welcomed some new community members, and actively communicated with government agencies/local councils to best contribute to the society and serve the diverse communities.

The goal of the MCW is to engage with all people to celebrate the diversity and improve social well-being of Wellington. Our hybrid monthly meetings (in person or by Zoom) will enhance the capacity building and leadership qualities of the members. All festive seasons celebrated will strongly engage and connect us to wider community in Wellington. The collaboration will further strengthen our relationship with all stakeholders for future cooperation. We are proud to be part of a web of people that are making New Zealand a safer, healthier, more connected place for such a rich tapestry of people to call home.

A big thanks to our wonderful executive team, community members and key partners for your kind support which help made our MCW a stronger team. It is my great honour and privilege to be part of the vision of MCW that brings us all together for betterment of Wellington and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Looking ahead into 2024, we look forward to welcoming more new community members and organising more social, cultural and sports activities. With the support from all of you, I am confident that we can bring all the communities together for celebrating diversity and inclusion through respect, unity, and love.

**Rachel Qi**

**President, Multicultural Council of Wellington**



# Celebrating Diversity

## Multicultural Festival in celebration of Chinese New Year Gala Performance

2023 Multicultural Festival in celebration of Chinese New Year Gala Performance was held at Te Papa in January 2023. This free to public event showcased a variety of cultures from around the world with 15 performing groups from more than 20 ethnic communities. We were honoured to celebrate diversity and CNY with the Government representatives, Diplomatic Corps, Mayor of Wellington, and wider communities from Wellington region. The celebration creates great understanding in community to foster LOVE, UNITY, and PEACE.





## MCW AGM 2022

BIG THANKS to all our members and key stakeholders for attending our Multicultural Council of Wellington - MCW AGM 2022 in Johnsonville. It was great to reflect what we have achieved last year. Congratulations to the new Executive Committee. We will continue to work hard to bring communities together to contribute to our diverse city and Aotearoa New Zealand. Special thanks to our guests and members for making our AGM a great event.





## A Very Welly Christmas' - Christmas Parade

The Multicultural Council of Wellington joined the Wellington City Council's 'A Very Welly Christmas 2022' Santa's Arrival Parade on Saturday 26 Nov and Sunday 27 Nov. Thanks to Mayor of Wellington for joining our parade along with representatives from diverse communities. It was a great opportunity to showcase our diverse cultures and celebrate diversity with thousands of Wellingtonians in our beautiful capital city.



## Season's Greeting and Awards

The Multicultural Council of Wellington December meeting and season's greeting was held at the Collective Community Hub in Johnsonville. What a wonderful evening to round of the year! On behalf of the Executive team, we really appreciate the kind support from all our stakeholders and members/community leaders. We presented some awards to those who have made great contribution to the ethnic communities.





## Chinese New Year Celebration

It was great to celebrate Chinese New Year with many communities and stakeholders. Some of our members were invited to the Parliamentary Chinese New Year function and New Zealand Police Head Quarter Lunar New Year celebration, as well as New Zealand Malaysian Society's CNY celebration.



## Fundraising for supporting communities affected by Cyclone Gabrielle

As you all know the Cyclone Gabrielle has caused severe damage to parts of North Island New Zealand, the Multicultural Council Wellington in conjunction with the Fiji Association Wellington Inc and our communities launched a fundraising initiative to help those affected by the devastating weather events in the Hawkes Bay region. Thanks to everyone who supported this initiative and donated generously. Special thanks to Prem Singh for leading this project.





## Woman's Day Celebration

2023 Multicultural Council of Wellington International Women's Day Women's Empowerment Workshop was held in Wellington in March. Thanks to all the guest speakers for joining us and speaking on "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality", Innovation, harm reduction, gender equality, leadership, youth, etc. for the empowerment of all women and girls. In this way, active women's participation at social, political and community level would increase the capacity to lead and build a vibrant nation.



## ANZAC Day 2023

Anzac Day commemorates all New Zealanders killed in war and honours our returned servicemen and women. Our Multicultural Council of Wellington team participated in the Wellington City Council Anzac Day Citizen's Wreath Laying Service on 25 April.





## Commonwealth Day 2023

The Multicultural Council of Wellington representatives were invited to the celebration of Commonwealth Day 2023 at the Parliament in March. With 'Forging a Sustainable and Peaceful Common Future' as its theme, Commonwealth Day aims to unite 2.5 billion Commonwealth citizens in celebration of their shared values and principles, and in pursuit of a common future, centred on sustainability and peace.



## Matariki Ahi Kā

Wellington celebrated Matariki Ahi Kā at Wellington Waterfront with large-scale projections, live performances, burning fires and kai.



## Race Relations Day

2023 Multicultural Council of Wellington Race Relations Day Festival was held in Wellington. This event is to fulfil a goal of our Council's strategic plan to support the celebration and integration of all cultures into all aspects of everyday life in Wellington. This event is featured with music, singing and dancing from diverse ethnic communities and local talents in Wellington. An opportunity to support and acknowledge the Race Relation Day, in collaborations with our key partners - Wellington City Council and Human Rights Commission to celebrate the rich diversity of Wellington.



## Matariki Festival 2023 - Mānawatia a Matariki

For the first time in Aotearoa New Zealand, Mānawatia a Matariki will officially be celebrated as a rā whakatā ā-ture (public holiday) on the 24th of June 2022. It is an opportunity for all people of New Zealand to come together ā kia hoki mahara atu ki te tau kua hipa, and reflect on the year that has passed, celebrate the present, and plan for the future. We really enjoyed celebrating the Matariki with wider communities.





## COVID-19 Response Recognition Award and Certificate of Acknowledgement and Appreciation

Wonderful to receive the COVID-19 Response Recognition Award Certificate and the badge from the Prime Minister Rt Hon Chris Hipkins, and the Certificate of Acknowledgement and Appreciation from Ministry of Health & Ministry for Ethnic Communities. It's an acknowledgement of what we did for the communities during an incredibly challenging time. Congratulations to our diverse, united and wonderful MCW team/Whanau!



## Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Day

The MCW team joined Multicultural New Zealand (MNZ) and local communities in celebrating the Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Day on Friday August 2022. A day of celebration of different cultures made possible with the invitation extended through Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Join other New Zealanders by wearing traditional attire, or sharing traditional food, or sharing a waiata/song.

**Multicultural New Zealand Presents**  
**TE TIRITI-BASED MULTICULTURAL DAY**

**Huarahi Hou** **FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022**

A day of celebration of different cultures made possible with the invitation extended through Te Tiriti o Waitangi

**JOIN OTHER NEW ZEALANDERS BY:**

- Wearing traditional attire
- Sharing traditional favourite food
- Sharing a waiata/song from regions here and around the world

**LET'S CELEBRATE THIS DAY:**

- In the workplace
- At school & University
- On the streets
- And all public places!

**CONTACT MNZ FOR RESOURCES, MORE DETAILS, OR TO GET INVOLVED**

Info@mnz.org.nz  
027 342 9929, 04 916 9177  
www.multiculturalnz.org.nz  
facebook.com/MulticulturalNZ

**NZMNC MULTICULTURAL NEW ZEALAND**

**Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Day**

*Celebrated on the last Friday of AUGUST each year*

**AIO KI TE AORANGI**  
(PEACE TO THE UNIVERSE)

www.multiculturalnz.org.nz

**Different Colours**

Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Day

He wā whakanui

**Same Spirit**

MULTICULTURAL NEW ZEALAND  
www.multiculturalnz.org.nz  
Celebrated on the last Friday of August each year.



## MNZ Immigration Conference

MCW representatives attended the Immigration Conference in Auckland that was organised by Multicultural New Zealand, and heard from the Minister for Immigration on the immigration policies and provided feedback on the migrants' visa issues, etc.



## MNZ Youth Conference

MCW representatives attended a Youth Conference over the weekend of 3-4 December 2022 in Kāpiti Island, which was organised by Multicultural New Zealand, hosted by mana whenua Ngāti Toa Rangatira. The attendees participated in the strategic planning session during the conference, and heard about climate change and joined educational workshop, as well as enjoyed a bonfire on Saturday evening and went out for geo-caching exercise on Sunday morning.





## MNZ Women Hui 2023

MCW representatives attended a Workshop on Evaluating and Embedding E Tū Whānau Values in the Women's Wellbeing Framework, which was organised by Multicultural New Zealand Women's Council. The participants had the opportunity to share their insights, experiences, and suggestions to enhance the framework and ensure it aligns with the unique needs and aspirations of women.



## Citizenship Ceremony

The Multicultural Council of Wellington team is honoured to participate in Wellington City Council's Citizenship Ceremony at the Soundings Theatre in Te Papa to welcome the new citizens. The Multicultural council representatives were invited to attend the ceremony as part of the delegation. It was a great way for us to engage with new migrants/citizens and celebrate diversity in Wellington.







### Multicultural New Zealand Gala Dinner & Awards

2022 Multicultural New Zealand Gala Dinner & Awards were held in September in Wellington. Awards were presented to MNZ& MCW Treasurer Prem Singh, Deputy Commissioner Wallace Haumaha, MNZ Patron Tā Mark Solomon, Pania Newton and Lupematasila Misatauveve, Dr Melani Anae, MCW VP Mohan Mistry, MCW Secretary Lesley Maxwell and many more. Congratulations to all the awards recipients! Thank you all for your outstanding contributions to make our city/country a better place.





## Multicultural Communities Digital Inclusion Training: Improving digital literacy

The Multicultural Communities Digital Inclusion Training: Improving digital literacy workshops held on 19th and 20th August in Wellington. The training covers the following areas: basic skills on how to access internet on devices, improving skills to carry out basic online activities and service, such as online banking and accessing government services, connecting people through various digital tools, cyber security and preventing cyber-attacks, motivation in using digital technology and building trust in the internet and online services.



## MCW MONTHLY MEETING

Our monthly meeting is held on every second Tuesday of the month to enhance the capacity building and leadership qualities of the members. Thanks to our community members, guest speakers and stakeholders for attending our meetings and discussions.







WAITAKI  
MULTICULTURAL  
COUNCIL INC

## Waitaki Multicultural Council

*'Kua tawhiti kē tō haerenga mai, kia kore e haere tonu. He nui rawa ō mahi kia kore e mahi tonu' – 'We have come too far not to go further. We have done too much not to do more'.*

Sir James Henare

**Tēnā koutou katoa,**

**This year we celebrate our 15<sup>th</sup> birthday, acknowledging the legacy and successes of the past and navigating the challenging and yet exciting future. We would like to celebrate those who have played a key role over the last 15 years shaping our present.**



Over the last twelve months, our service delivery has increased significantly. Newcomers to the Waitaki district have been from other parts of New Zealand and increasingly, skilled workers from many countries. Our newsletter subscription has over 660 members.

There have been 330 separate Waitaki Multicultural **activities** held during this financial year. Weekly groups that we run are Coffee Group, Walking Group, English Conversation Club, Multicultural Playgroup and Swimming Lessons. Monthly groups are Migrants Meet & Share, Women Connect, Friday Night Drinks and Book Group. We are hugely grateful to our wonderful volunteers who facilitate these activities and welcome newcomers with warmth and ongoing care. Thanks also to all the organisations who have provided the venues and support for our activities.



Waitaki Multicultural Playgroup.



Waitaki Multicultural English Conversation Club.



Social **events** have included a Multicultural Day celebration, a trip to Vanished World, a Daffodil Day picnic, the launch of the New Nesters II film, the Festive Feast, a Mother’s Day Celebration, a Race Relations Day afternoon tea, and a Matariki celebration. Thank you to everyone who hosted, attended, enriched, and helped at these events.



Trip to Vanished World



Migrants Meet and Share - Matariki Dinner.



There have been over 250 **enquires** for our service, covering a variety of needs, such as food support, social connection, housing, employment, relationships, and immigration. Sincere thanks to the many community agencies who collaborate with us to assist migrants to settle in the district.

We have collaborated with several organisations on **projects** that seek to better understand the experiences of people who chose to settle in rural areas such as Waitaki. These have included Inclusive Aotearoa and their conversation about Belonging, University of Otago medical students, University of Otago School of Geography SSHRC / CERC Migration and Integration research, and the North Otago Museum “Snapshots” exhibition.

An important focus that has continued this year, is to offer **learning opportunities** that develop the capability of migrants and supporters within our network. Some of these are “in house” and others involve partnerships with other organisations. Here are some of the enriching experiences we have been involved in.

- Supported two Job Search Skills workshops.
- Sponsored migrants families to attend school holiday programmes.
- Worked with English Language Partners to establish English Language classes in Oamaru.
- Participated in an induction day for new skilled migrant workers led by Oamaru Pacific Island Community Group.
- OurBuddy English programme continued.
- Collaboration with YMCA / Y Drive to offer Community Driving Scholarships for migrants to gain their driving licence.
- Invited Shama Ethnic Women’s Trust to deliver a Prevention of Sexual Violence workshop. This led to a local project for a group of women to create a booklet about Healthy Relationships.
- Listening sessions Ministry of Justice – National Plan Against Racism
- Ministry for Ethnic Communities – Health Strategy consultation
- We have been very fortunate this year to have had two local marae experiences. The first was a pōwhiri and workshop hosted at Te Whare Koa, Oamaru and facilitated by the Treaty People. The second was an invitation from Welcoming Communities and Te Runaka O Moeraki to a pōwhiri and korero at Moeraki Marae to share settlement stories.





Healthy Relationships Workshop.



Te Whare Koa Marae.

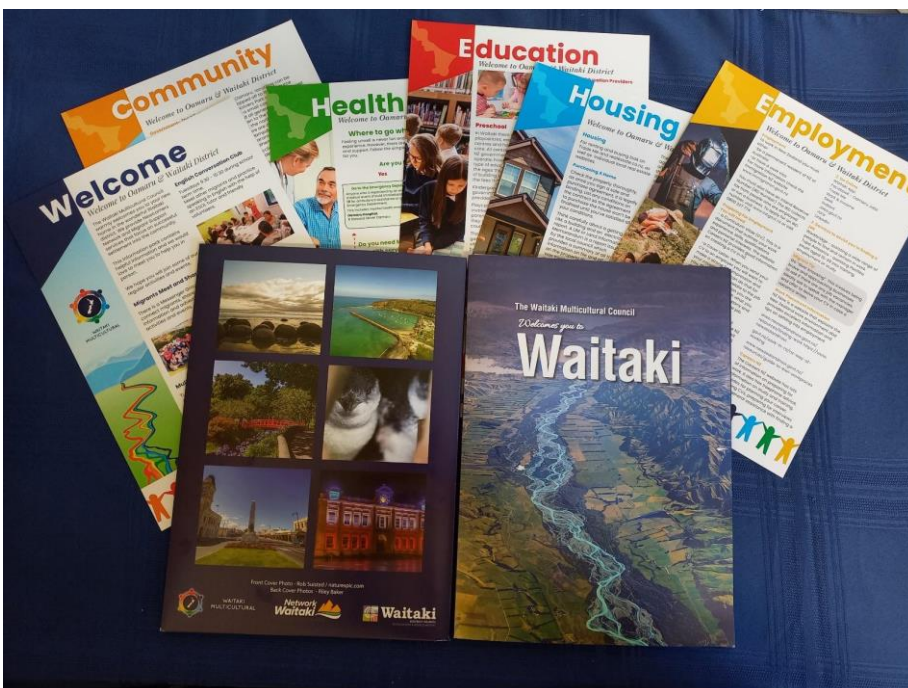




Moeraki Marae.

**Advocacy** is another key aspect of the work that we do. We have represented Waitaki Multicultural at a range of community meetings, including Stronger Waitaki, Local Settlement Network, Ministry of Ethnic Communities, Immigration NZ, and Census NZ.

Following the values of one of our main funders: E Tū Whānau – MSD, we have focused on *Kōrero Awhi, positive communication and action*, by updating our branding. The aim was to have an identity and unity that clearly promotes our services. We are very proud of the result, and now have a new logo, slogan, flag and banners as well as our new website [www.waitakimulticultural.org.nz](http://www.waitakimulticultural.org.nz)



Waitaki Multicultural Welcome Pack



Our work wouldn't be possible without the support of each of you, my gratitude and acknowledgement go out to:

- The support and confidence of our funders and partners
- The volunteers, advisors and leaders in our region who have contributed many hours of work.
- The executive committee and other committee members for your dedication in advocating for newcomers and migrants
- The office team for your hard work accepting the many challenges faced by WMC newcomers and migrants for your enthusiasm and friendship in attending and supporting our programmes

Nga mihi nui | Muchas gracias

**Maria Buldain**

**Waitaki Multicultural Council Chairperson**





## Waikato Multicultural Council

I am pleased to present this annual report on behalf of the Waikato Multicultural Council Inc. (WMC). This report reflects the variety of activities and achievements of WMC in meeting their vision and objectives. WMC has continued to work enthusiastically and positively to enhance the cultural and socio-economic welfare of the migrant and ethnic communities in the Waikato and this was done through communication and liaison with various organisations within the region over the past year.



The Executive Committee of the WMC met on a regular basis and 7 meetings were held for the year. In the meetings, the main business was to report and discuss planning of activities for the months ahead including the planning of events, Multicultural Evening held in October of each year and the working closely with affiliated organisations in community services such as Blood Donation Camps held twice yearly, youth sports events and environmental initiatives. The WMC Executive Committee meetings not only serve the purpose of WMC's general business but serve also as a platform to share information from events and seminars run by community organisations and government departments where WMC is represented as participants.

**Ravinder Powar,**  
**President, Waikato Multicultural Council**

### WMC Events with Affiliated Members and Participation with Organisations

**1 April:** The Welcoming Communities Commitment Signing Event was held at the Cr Philip Yeung Memorial area in Claudelands Park.

**6 April:** Monthly Zoom meeting of NZFMC.

**20 April:** Zoom meeting with Dr Kararina Sumeo, EEO Commissioner who spoke on Economic Development, Employment and Pay Parity of Women and Migrant Communities.

**25 April:** ANZAC Commemoration. A tribute to the very brave who paid the ultimate sacrifice, and to all personnel currently serving in peacekeeping missions overseas.

**26 April:** Christopher Luxon, National Party Leader and Leader of the Opposition spoke to MNZ Rangatira via Team Link and shared his party's vision on how to foster relationships with community organisations such as MNZ's Regional Councils.





**14 May:** A MoU on Cooperation and Communication was signed by MNZ President Pancha Narayanan and Commissioner of Police Andrew Coster in Wellington and ethnic communities of New Zealand representative MNZ President Pancha Narayanan. Present at the signing was former Governor General Sir Anand Satyanand, Human Rights Commissioner Paul Hunt, and senior Diplomatic representatives. WMC along with regional councils were present at this event.

**22 May:** Waikato Senior Indian Citizens Association Inc (WSICA) held their AGM on 22 May in Hamilton. I was formally requested by the WSICA executive to oversee the election process and protocols and as JP I also administrated the oath process of the new office bearers.

**27 May:** Indian Cultural Society held their AGM. A new committee was elected, and planning took place for Diwali celebrations for October 2022 including planning of participation in forthcoming local events.

**29 May:** A celebration was held with Nepal New Zealand Waikato Society Inc. the anniversary of the first ascent of Mount Everest in 1953 by Sir Edmund Hilary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay. The event acknowledged the friendship and history between Nepal and New Zealand. The event was well supported by other organisations.



**10 June:** India's forthcoming 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day celebration took place at Waikato Indian Association Hall, Hamilton. Distinguished guests present were: Indian High Commissioner, H.E. Muktesh Pardeshi, Hamilton Mayor Paula Southgate, Hamilton Deputy Mayor, Geoff Taylor along with several local community leaders.

H.E. Muktesh Pardeshi spoke on the special relationship India and New Zealand have and commended the Indian diaspora on the cooperation and contributions to New Zealand and abroad.

**17 June:** Te Ohu Whakaitia Charitable Trust along with Friends of Hamilton Gardens launched Matariki Festival 2022 at Te Parapara Garden and Hamilton Garden Pavilion. A very moving dawn ceremony officiated by Tainui Kaumatua took place, the celebration marked the beginning of the Māori New Year and marks the inauguration of the forthcoming Matariki national holiday of 24 June 2022.

**25 June:** Waikato Interfaith and World Interfaith Council along with Waikato Multicultural Council and other charitable organisations held their annual Multicultural tree planting event at Waiwhakareke Natural Heritage Park, Hamilton.



The Multicultural Tree Planting event also marked Matariki celebrations. 1,000 native saplings were donated by Hamilton City Council and were planted by a team of over 300 volunteers.



**10 July:** The Waikato Muslim Association celebrated Eid al-Adha at the Mosque in Claudelands, many Hamiltonians were welcomed to mark the occasion.

**27 July:** The Waikato Kai Challenge. A Zoom meeting/seminar discussion on how we might end hunger in the Waikato. A discussion took place headed by 3 speakers, Lisa Booth, Rebekah Graham, and Mike Rolton on how government needs to take urgent steps to address this growing issue.

**28 July:** Community leaders participated and provided input into the Hamilton Welcoming Plan and how this can be actualised and delivered. It was also a chance to promote #welcomingweek2022 celebrations from 9-18 September. Welcoming Communities is coordinated by Hamilton City Council.

**30 July:** Tamil Society Waikato “Kalai Vizha Music Night” a colourful evening of talented dance and music which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The organising team consisted of Sri Kamala Devi Samuel, Srinii Kala, Bobbie, Samuel Benjamin, Sharmilee Sivaruban and the rest of the dedicated team.

**6 Aug:** Waikato Indian Diaspora organisations held a meeting to join in holding a combined upcoming Diwali Celebration. It was a very good meeting which concluded in the consensus of organisations holding this event jointly. The Indian High Commissioner to New Zealand had encouraged this on a previous visit to Hamilton. Mayor Paula Southgate has offered funding towards this joint celebration.

**13 August:** MNZ Governance Training for the North Island was conducted over the weekend of 13-14 August 2022. Community leaders and executive committee members attended the training, it was a successful event for RMC's, emphasis was on the importance of accountability, reporting of government funding, responsibilities on social media and the management of conflict of interest. Kura Moeahu, tiamana of Te Rūnanganui o Te Āti Awa held a session on Tiriti awareness through stories and narratives.

**21 August:** Hamilton's Indian Diaspora were entertained by award winning Bhangra team from Punjab University, Chandigarh, India, the team was sponsored by the Indian High Commission to New Zealand. Acknowledgment to Waikato Indian Association, Waikato Indian Senior Citizens Association, Indian Cultural Society Waikato Multicultural Council, Tamil Society Waikato for arranging this superb event.

**28 August:** Waikato Shaheed-E-Azam Bhagat Singh Sports & Cultural Trust held the birthday celebrating of Shaheed Bhagat Singh. A very bright and colourful event took place consisting of dance and poetry. Waikato Multicultural Council was represented by WMC Secretary Linda's group with an exquisite dance performance.

**30 August:** Jessie Sanghera and Ravinder Powar recited the Sikh prayer at the Hamilton City Council Chamber as part of the Interfaith prayers that take place every month. Jessie also performed a traditional Punjabi dance which was enjoyed by the councillors.

**5 September:** The first citizenship ceremony for the year was held at Wintec's Atrium. 109 recipients from many countries around the globe took the oath of allegiance and became New Zealand citizens.

**9 September:** Welcoming Community week, a new a program to include inclusion and diversity was launched at Hamilton City Council lounge. This was initiated by the Hamilton City Council with the assistance of Waikato Multicultural Council and other community organisations to work together to highlight and celebrate Hamilton's diversity.

**16 September:** NZFMC monthly zoom meeting.

**17 September:** Shaheed e Azam Bhagat Singh Trust held a T20 Cricket Tournament at Innes Common. Twelve teams from Waikato and the wider region, including Auckland took part.



**17 September:** Te Tiriti in our language educational resources launch was held at Woodlands Estate, Gordonton. Te Tiriti has been translated into 15 of languages. Resource packs can be ordered by going to [www.treatypeople.org/languages](http://www.treatypeople.org/languages). Special acknowledgement went to the translators of Te Tiriti.

**18 September:** launch of Holy Koran's translation in te reo Māori at Hamilton Central Library.

**20 September:** WMC's affiliated member and in collaboration with Shaheed-E-Azam Bhagat Singh Trust, held a blood and plasma donation camp at the NZ Blood Donor Centre, Hamilton. 45 units of whole blood was collected and with a good number donating plasma.



**23,24,25 September:** NZFMC AGM commenced with a 7-people panel discussion speaking on whakapapa, the values important to them and where to go for the future. This is under a Tiriti-based approach with communities engaging with tangata whenua. Interesting demographic trends were shared with. By 2050 the bulk of the working taxpayers are going to be multicultural.

Quote from Kiriana who was one of the speakers: "Do not substitute your essence of who you are in the work that you do, stay true to yourself". The MNZ executive committee remained the same. Impact reports of 1.5 minutes duration on 3 main successes were shared by all regional multicultural councils. The Gala dinner speakers were Police Minister Chris Hipkins and Police Commissioner Andrew Coster. The Women's Council held their elections, WMC committee member Jeanie was elected as Secretary of Women's Council. WMC President Ravinder was elected as President of the Senior's Council. There is to be a MNZ youth event in December 2022.

**27 October:** Diwali Celebration 2022 at Parliament in Wellington. I was both humbled and privileged to be invited by Honourable MP Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister for Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities to attend the Parliamentary Diwali Celebration. It resulted in a very positive networking opportunity with other invitee organisations, discussions were held on future Diwali celebrations held jointly in a unified manner with other organisations and also the possibility of publishing an all-inclusive Aotearoa events calendar.

**30 October:** Waikato Senior Indian Citizens Association celebrated Diwali, a most enjoyable evening celebrated with family and friends. The event included colourful dance and art performances by some of the many talented local cultural groups.

**5 November:** Diwali Celebrations. A unified Diwali celebration was held in Hamilton which was enjoyed by newly appointed Indian High Commissioner, Neeta Bushan, Mayor Paula Southgate, Hamilton City Councillors, and community leaders. A joint effort was put in by the Diwali committee and volunteers in arranging this superb celebration.

**6 November:** A big welcome to Hawkes Bay Multicultural Council to Hamilton. It was a pleasure to entertain the council with Hamilton's Mayor Paula Southgate, city councillors and Dr Gaurav Sharma. WMC was delighted to have them as guests at our Unified Diwali celebration, visit to Gurdwara (Temple) and Hamilton city attractions.

**17 February:** Chinese Golden Age Society's Chinese New Year and Lantern Festival celebration. It was a privilege to be present on behalf of WMC to celebrate two very significant occasions. Many thanks were conveyed to the Golden Age Society and performing dance groups for the superb event.



**18 February:** WMC joined Sri Lanka Friendship Society Waikato in their 75th Independence Anniversary celebration. Children portrayed the history of Sri Lanka which was most enlightening. The audience was spellbound by the exquisite national dance and art, the evening concluded with patriotic songs.

**23 February:** WMC participated in a forum held by "Waikato Wellbeing" focusing on developing a clear pathway as to how we can all work towards a food secure region where all whānau have access to healthy kai.

**24 February:** A recent workshop session was held in Hamilton for an important opportunity for ethnic communities to provide feedback on the NZ Health Strategy. Hosted by the Ministry of Ethnic Communities and the Ministry of Health who collated suggestions to take back to the Ministry.

**27 February:** Citizenship Ceremony: As part of welcoming committee and representing WMC. The First Citizenship ceremony of the year was held at the Atrium, Wintec, 180 new individuals from around the globe became NZ citizens.

**13 March:** MNZ monthly executive Zoom meeting. Updates on the forthcoming immigration conference to be held in May.

**19 March:** Cricket Game between Hamilton City Boys and Rural Country Boys. This was organised by Country Section NZ Indian Association (CSNZIA) and held at Discovery Park Flagstaff. The match was well attended by all communities.

**22 March:** Citizenship Ceremony: As part of welcoming committee and representing WMC. Citizenship ceremony was held at the Claudelands Arena, 270 new individuals from around the globe became NZ citizens.





## Impact Story from Preeti Kumar at WMC AGM

Master of Education student Preeti Kumar, a student at the University of Waikato wished to share her story of how her experience starting with WMC was positively life changing. In December of 2022 she describes how she needed assistance and guidance in her immigration visa status which was due to expire within 4 days, and this would have resulted in a detrimental effect on her studies at University of Waikato.

Preeti spoke to her cousin Sandeep Diwan, Vice Chairperson of Multicultural Whangārei. He recommended she contact WMC President Ravinder who was at the time in New York with family, upon receiving her call, and hearing of her plight, President Ravinder immediately took action and suggested she contact Waikato University Academic and longstanding WMC committee member Dr Sayeeda Bano for assistance.



Dr Sayeeda put in enormous efforts in assisting Preeti. Multiple visits to various Departments within the University of Waikato were made and in the end a solution was arrived at to remedy Preeti's impending immigration visa expiry status.

Preeti was filled with gratitude at how two community minded people completely unknown to her, helped in resolving her dilemma. For her "It was a Christmas gift from two Santa's," she said light heartedly, and something she will never forget. The actions of WMC President Ravinder Powar and WMC committee member and Waikato University academic Dr Sayeeda Bano, not only resulted in Preeti achieving her immigration visa renewal but also assisted in the management of her two-hearing dependent disabled children.



## UPPER HUTT MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL

UHMCC's work this past year has been situated in a climate of adapting to a new normal, facing new challenges and new progress. I am thrilled to see the friendships and successes of UHMCC growing. The journey towards a Tiriti-based Multicultural Aotearoa is resonating within local leadership and community. At the heart of all of our work has been the unwavering kaupapa of Mana Ōrite. Equality for all. Thank you all for the effort and aroha that has gone into initiatives such as the Tiriti-based Multicultural Day, Huarahi Hou, all the cultural festivals, and all the small ways we embody this in our everyday lives. It is a privilege to serve such a passionate and focussed whānau, I am once again humbled by what you show is possible to achieve in the community.

**Pancha Narayanan**  
**President, Upper Hutt Multicultural Council**

### **Multicultural Strategy**

UHMCC has presented to City Council a draft multicultural strategy for Upper Hutt. UHMCC are currently working closely with mana whenua and the Community and Strategy & Communications departments of Council to provide extensive community consultation woven into this strategy. We hope to have a revised working draft by the end of 2023.

### **Community Meetings**

UHMCC opens its doors to communities and service providers every three months to catch up on matters of Upper Hutt's cultural communities. Some of the key points and initiatives that have come out of these hui are

- Wallaceville Open Day to welcome newcomers from the recently established Wallaceville Estate into the community
- Using food as a medium to facilitate settlement and connection
- The disconnect and fatigue among communities post covid-19



## Racism Listening Sessions

UHMCC participated in the NAPAR (National Action Plan Against Racism) Listening Sessions, gathering the highly important and powerful stories of local communities' experiences of racism in New Zealand, to inform a National Action Plan being devised by NZ Government in partnership with the National Iwi Chairs Forum. Members of the community shared their personal stories in a supportive and confidential hui. UHMCC has been called to run these sessions on a wider level in Upper Hutt in conjunction with Mayor Wayne Guppy and mana whenua.

## Covid vaccine and booster clinics

UHMCC supported Orongomai's monthly "Vax to the Max" walk-in covid and flu vaccine clinics from July to December last year, raising awareness and guiding Upper Hutt's multicultural communities to participate.



## Diwali

After having to postpone for 2 years due to covid, UHMCC finally hosted Upper Hutt's first Diwali festival. The evening featured displays of Rangoli, many dance and musical performances, a complimentary meal and sweets, community awards and a fun inclusive fashion show for 350+ guests. The evening was opened in true Huarahi Hou (Tiriti-based Multiculturalism) style, with both a karakia and kapa haka, and the lighting of a traditional Diwali lamp.

## Tiriti-based Multicultural Day

Tiriti-based Multicultural Day is celebrated nationally on the last Friday of August to encourage visibility and normalisation of the cultures present in Aotearoa New Zealand. UHMCC promoted this locally through schools, workplaces and communities by distributing posters and stickers, role modelling this by wearing their cultural attire to work and sharing traditional kai with colleagues, and hosting a small evening gathering on the day. UHMCC members also participated in a shared lunch at the Ministry of Health on this day.

## Santa Parade

The Upper Hutt Santa Parade is one of our favourite events of the year. It gives local cultural communities, who may often be quite shy, a moment in the spotlight while the whole city has gathered to smile, wave and enjoy. Do not underestimate the significance of this experience for our communities, to allow them to feel safe, accepted and celebrated by all. With spectacular dancers from the South Sudanese and Luo communities, drummers from the Chinese senior community, as well as some young Lion Dancers, we know we made quite an impression in the parade. Feedback from the community was immensely positive and we look forward to the next one.



## Waitangi Day

UHMCC was happy to support Orongomai's fantastic Waitangi Day celebrations, raising awareness and guiding Upper Hutt's multicultural communities to participate. It was a wonderful day of kai, music and wananga, and an excellent and accessible way for communities to connect with Te Tiriti o Waitangi and tangata whenua.



## Lunar New Year

Usually marketed as Chinese New Year, UHMCC took advice from the community and renamed this festival Lunar New Year with a focus of diversity among all cultures that follow the Asian lunar calendar. Hosted on February 11th, this was a gathering of song, music, dance and arts from all backgrounds, including Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese and cultural fusions.



## Huarahi Hou in Schools

In December 2022 UHMCC published a cultural calendar for local schools, containing significant cultural events that together represent at least 95% of students in Aotearoa. The following initiatives have so far been worked on with local schools:

### a. Diwali

- i Fergusson Intermediate: UHMCC supported a group of student leaders to run a series of Diwali activities in school, providing decorations and traditional Diwali sweets, as well.
- ii St Josephs: UHMCC worked with St Josephs to run a Rangoli colouring competition in the lead up to Diwali.
- iii St Brendans: UHMCC visited the St Brendans Diwali celebration, spending time with teachers, parents and students, UHMCC contributed a community-made rangoli board with coloured rice for children to put together during the day.

b. **Upper Hutt Cultural Festival:** This festival involves performances from kapa haka or pasifika groups belonging to all schools in Upper Hutt. Hosted this year by Silverstream School, UHMCC offered a koha to support the organising costs, and attended on the day, also paying respect to Mohi Waihi as a dear kaumatua of UHMCC.

c. **UH School Multicultural Festival:** Upper Hutt School hosted a wonderful Multicultural Festival at the end of March 2023. UHMCC expressed their immediate support for the kaupapa and shared widely to get other communities involved. UHMCC coordinated a number of performances from the Chinese community as part of the programme.

d. **Silverstream School international Day:** UHMCC is working closely with the lead teachers organising Silverstream School's International Day to be held in July 2023. UHMCC arranged a number of performances and activities from local communities and advised on the programme for the day. Feedback from the school was immensely positive and word has spread to other schools who are keen to pick up the kaupapa.

e. **Trentham School Multicultural Day:** After the success of Silverstream School's International day, Trentham School contacted UHMCC to request similar collaboration. UHMCC looks forward to ongoing relationships with the school and students/families involved.



## Iranian New Year

Due to covid the community has not gathered for 3 years, and all of the stress, grief and work in response to escalating women's rights protests in Iran recently, meant that the need for aroha and kotahitanga / love and togetherness was greater than ever. Overcoming short timeframes and a budget only tenth the usual size, the community had to think quickly and creatively to make this big night happen. Sepi Firoozkoohi and Marzieh Keshavarzi, ICSW President and Vice-president, teamed up with UHMCC to do so. UHMCC supported and guided the community to organise and lead the event themselves. For the first time Nowruz was celebrated in Upper Hutt, open to the public and done completely from community connections.



## Recognising the Service of the Police

In April UHMCC hosted a small community gathering at the Cossie Club to recognise the success of some of our community members in beginning a new career journey in the NZ Police. The highlight of the night was the Epaulette Ceremony for Kannan Alagappan, UHMCC Vice-President and now Senior Sergeant in the Ethnic Partnerships team for NZ Police.



## **Bringing Traditional Music and Arts to New Zealand**

UHMCC recognises the importance of keeping the cultural taonga of all New Zealanders intact and ensuring there is a space for them in the community. UHMCC supported the NZ Hindu Association to bring professional players of the traditional Thavil and Nadhaswaram instruments from India to Wellington to run a weekend workshop and demonstration in playing these taonga. UHMCC has also supported the Luo and South Sudanese communities to upgrade the costumes for their dance group, which is central to their culture and identity.

## **Gandhi Nivas**

After successful implementation in Auckland, UHMCC is championing the bid to bring Gandhi Nivas to Upper Hutt. This initiative provides early intervention and prevention services for New Zealand men identified at risk of committing harm in the family home. UHMCC is running Men with Mana and Women's Wellbeing Framework sessions in the meantime to facilitate safe and confidential spaces for community members to discuss any concerns or hardships and work to alleviate any urgent issues or stresses within the community that can lead to family violence.

## **Wallaceville Open Day**

With over 1,400 families and newcomers in the recently established Wallaceville Estate, UHMCC thought it pertinent to ensure our new neighbourhoods are welcomed properly. Planned for March 2023 but very unfortunately needed to be called off due to the weather, with plans to pick the event back up in Spring.

## **ANZAC Day**

Our Treasurer Purinima Sharma led the UHMCC team on a cold April morning to participate in the Dawn Ceremony for ANZAC Day 2023 in Upper Hutt. In the company of local leaders such as Mayor Wayne Guppy and Prime Minister/local MP Chris Hipkins, UHMCC laid a wreath in memory of those who lost their lives in the wars of the twentieth century.

## **Community Support**

In the past year UHMCC have supported individuals from the Cambodian, Chinese, Luo, Indian, Ukrainian, Sri Lankan communities. UHMCC has also been providing overall support for the Iranian community and more recently, in light of the escalating war in Khartoum, an initiative to support the Sudanese Community is currently underway.



## Matariki

UHMCC greatly enjoyed attending and contributing to the Wellington region Matariki event held on June 12th in Johnsonville Community Hall. UHMCC brought about 40 guests and provided one of the cultural performances for the night. We enjoyed the opportunity for many catch ups and kotahitanga. UHMCC was also happy to support Upper Hutt's Matariki celebrations, raising awareness and guiding Upper Hutt's multicultural communities to participate. UHMCC is excited that City Council and Orongomai Marae are ready to discuss a multicultural matariki collaboration for 2024.



## Community Support

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## Regular Programmes

UHMCC runs a number of regular weekly programmes in Upper Hutt, including:

- Sewing Club, run from Family Works on a Friday morning. Warm thanks to Phyllis, Joy, Clare, Cherie, and the other volunteers who make this happen.
- Social morning tea, run every Tuesday from the UHMCC Office and open to anyone to attend. An easy-going opportunity to practise conversational English, meet new people or catch up with old friends.
- Chinese Seniors Day, run every Wednesday from the UHMCC Office as a chance for the Chinese Seniors to socialise, speak comfortably in their language and share food, music and games.

Big thank you to the UHMCC whanau, the wider community whanau, and all of our other supporters.







## Te Tai o Poutini West Coast Multicultural Council

Our council was set up during covid and it took us some time to get our events going and to get funding. Although we are a small committee with only four members, we work very well together. We started off with just 15 members and now we have about 60 members. Our Council is slowly getting the support of immigrant and migrant communities living on the coast. From the start, we got the support of our Mayor Tania Gibson and the Grey District Council and there is much support for what we do from Westland and Buller districts.

Last September we held our **first AGM** and many who came signed up as members. The new committee consisted of Radha Nambiar (President), Leonora Freeman (Vice President) Cilla Ravure (Secretary), Soenke Struve (Treasurer) and Karlien van Heerden (committee member). However, Karlien left the committee for personal reasons in November 2022.

In collaboration with WestREAP, we organised the **Know Your rights workshop** for our members as well as for locals. It was conducted by Julia Yoo from Canterbury Law, and it covered general rights for students with special needs, family law and understanding wills. It was well attended.

The **Filipino Christmas Concert** was held in November 2022 at the Regent Theatre in Greymouth, and it was partly sponsored by our council.

The President Radha attended the **MNZ AGM held on 24 September 2022** in Wellington. On 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023 she attended **the Immigration conference** held in Auckland and the **Women's Hui** in Wellington on 5<sup>th</sup> August. The president also attended **People, Places and Wellbeing coming together conference** held in Greymouth where she spoke about the needs of immigrants and migrants. She also attended the **Housing Wanaga – West Coast Housing session** where she brought up the plight of immigrant/migrant communities with regards to housing. On 28<sup>th</sup> July the president gave a **talk to the Safer Westland committee Meeting** regarding social isolation and how immigrants and migrants coped with it on the coast. By attending these sessions and highlighting our needs, the local authorities and community now have a better understanding of the needs of our communities and how they can be helped.

From September 2022 till September 2023, we held **8 committee meetings**. Since June 2023, we have got a representative from MNZ helping us with our minutes. By hosting monthly meetings, the committee was made aware of what was discussed at regional council meetings and updated on our events.

Radha also worked on a brochure for our council which we managed to get printed before the Ethnic Fair. We distributed them on the day of the Fair. We will hand out these brochures to our new members and to others in the community.

### Other events:

**Lunar New Year dumplings dinner** was held in Hokitika at East Eats Chinese restaurant in February at it was very well attended.

A casual **Unity Lunch** was held at our office to show our solidarity with the Mosque shooting victims on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

On 20<sup>th</sup> May our very first **West Coast Ethnic Fair** was held at the Atrium, Tai Poutini Polytechnic in Greymouth. Our guests of honour were President of MNZ Pancha Narayanan and Grey District Mayor Tania Gibson. There were about 15 food stalls including south African Braai, dance performances by Filipino and Indian community, singing, Little Mermaid drama by kids and cooking demonstration by Celebrity MasterChef Jax Hamilton. There was something for everyone including the kids. About 300 people including locals from all over the West Coast came and supported our event.



What was so special was that we planned to host the event at the town Square but because of the threat of rain we hosted it at the Atrium. We did not have to pay for the venue and were amazed at the amount of support we got from the locals including council members. We could successfully host this event because our coordinator of the event Cassandra Struve is a West coaster. A special thanks goes to our committee members Cilla, Soenke, and Leonora who worked hard to make it a success. We got very positive feedback from the people who attended the fair like the choice of venue was great, a variety of food stalls, crafts, and great performances. Everyone enjoyed Jax Hamilton's cooking demonstration.





**Post Ethnic Fair Luncheon** was held to get feedback from Stall holders and performers regarding the fair. The feedback was very positive and based on that, we have decided to host two more food and craft fairs for the year. The next one will be held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September, and another will be in November.

On 24<sup>th</sup> June due to popular demand, we had our Indian dance performers from the Ethnic fair do an **Indian dance demonstration and practice session in Reefton**. We had about 12 participants all locals from Reefton. It was a very successful event.

On 5<sup>th</sup> August the **Filipino community organised the Mid-winter Event** at Camerons Hall. It was an opportunity for the kids to learn their language and participate in cultural activities.

**Tiriti-based Multicultural Day** will be celebrated at our Potluck dinner held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August.

**Diwali Celebration/concert** will be held on Saturday October 28<sup>th</sup> at the Trinity Church Hall in Greymouth. In preparation for this event, we organised an **Afternoon Tea** with the Indian community representatives on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August at 3 pm. This was to discuss how to coordinate the event, who would do the performances, take charge of food preparations, decorations, etc.

The Indian Kerala community have organised the **Onam Celebrations** to be held at the Baptist church in September. We will support the event by paying for the venue.

Based on a limited budget, we managed to organise quite a few events for our communities. We will continue to support and help our various multicultural communities living on the coast.

**Radha Nambiar**

**President**

**West Coast Te Tai o Poutini Multicultural Council**



## **Tauranga Regional Multicultural Council**

Kia ora, Kia Orana, Malo e Leilei, Talofa, Namaste, Hola, Salaam, Sat Sri Akaal, Ni Hao, Anyeoung Haseyo and warm greetings! "He iti te mokoroa, nāna i kati te kahikatea"

It is truly humbling to be able to share that it has been another successful year for Multicultural Tauranga. The country has pulled through the unfortunate weather events we have faced, with resilience and determination. This is a reminder to all to be prepared for emergencies as climate change is real and is causing harm to people and property. We have seen a growth in the number of international students and Migrants coming into Aotearoa and into the Bay of Plenty and our centre is well-gearred for this growth. We are serving the ethnic communities well, through the mahi we have been doing. As empowering communities is part of our goals, we have been serving as an umbrella organisation for the ethnic community's funding applications. We have been encouraging and supporting individual ethnic groups who are beginning to emerge and thrive, holding cultural events, language classes, and workshops for their communities. Advocacy continues to be a major kaupapa for us - getting the community's voice heard. Through our affiliation with our national body, we can add the migrant lens to influence and change policy decisions. At a local level, we can help migrants better access the justice and health system with translators and interpreters. Under the leadership of the current team, we have managed to make the organisation vibrant and visible in the community through the projects we have been doing and through our community participation. We have been getting involved in the New Year events, Waitangi Day, Anzac Day, and other community initiatives. This has meant a lot of engagements and meetings, but it has all been worthwhile. We've had a very successful migrant Pōwhiri and Festival with a record number of attendees. We have been successfully networking with other organisations that work in the migrant space. We are well-funded and look forward to continuing the great work that is needed to ensure that the ethnic communities in the Bay of Plenty thrive. Thank you to the committee and a special thanks to Prathima Rao who has been a huge support for me to carry on this work. We hope to have more committee members involved in projects and mahi in the coming year. The need for Multicultural Tauranga to have a community centre where we can host events and conduct hui has become a priority and continues to be a project that we will work towards achieving in 2023-24.

**Premila D'Mello**

**President, Tauranga Regional Multicultural Council**



## TRMC Services

Support for ethnic community groups We have been able to offer our support to ethnic groups by supporting various events that they have been hosting. This help has ranged from support through small donations to serving as an umbrella for the groups. Events that we have supported include Latin American Film Festival, Indonesian Culture Festival, Filipino Independence celebration, Sri-Lankan disco evening, Waitangi Day, Diwali Festival, and the Chinese Lantern Festival. Ethnic communities have been using our office premises for their meetings, workshops, and program. Living In Harmony, Multicultural Day, Annual Migrant Pōwhiri and Multicultural Festival are events which we organise to bring all the cultures together to increase understanding and appreciation of diversity. Language classes introduce people to other cultures. Tailored Migrant support We have been able to support individuals with driving lessons, childcare as well as immigration advice. Based on referrals, we have been able to extend support by connecting some of our young mums with immigration lawyers, English language classes, free counselling sessions, JP services. Our help desk continues to provide assistance and advocacy for migrants. Our centre provides a welcoming and comfortable environment for migrants to walk into our doors and ask for help. Our achievements have been our ability to reach out to and help migrants who will not reach out for support. Our relationships in the community have given these migrants the confidence to approach us and we have been able to offer them tailored support. "My business - Drive Safe Driving School has had the pleasure of partnering with Multicultural Tauranga over the last couple of years. To be able to provide driving lessons for the ladies helping them on their journey to becoming legal drivers and gaining independence is such a worthwhile service. However, this process is often a long one and requires as much support as possible. Seeing the ladies grow in confidence and self-belief and feel better about themselves is rewarding and so important for them and their families."- Sue Furmage Strong collaborations with stakeholders and others We have built strong relationships with stakeholders like TCC, CAB, Social Link, Bay Financial Mentors, Te Whatu Ora, Welcoming communities, Waipuna Hospice, Immigration NZ, Education Tauranga, and many other organisations. Multicultural Tauranga is now in a position to work through various collaborations such as the DHB, Mums4mums, NZ Police, Welcoming communities, the Incubator and Tauranga City Council. For example - We have been working closely with TCC to ensure that migrants are in the conversation about important decisions.

## BOPIS – Bay of Plenty Interpreting Service

Demand for interpreter and translator services has grown significantly by almost 15% in the last twelve months despite several cancellations due to Covid-19. We have also received many translation jobs in more than 20 languages which included material ranging from flyers and leaflets to entire surveys for organisations like the City Council and the NZ Police. We have also provided translation services for individuals in our community. We have recruited seven new interpreters to keep up with the growing demand. I have had a meeting with the new Coordinator of Decypher in Hamilton to maintain a good relationship and also get an understanding of our future needs. We provided interpreters several times for the courts in Rotorua, Whakatane, Gisborne and once to Napier. We also provided an interpreter for NZ Police for an audio-visual link to Houston, Texas, USA.

**Emmanuelle Heatley**  
**BOPIS Coordinator**



**150 face-to-face interpreting jobs**



**37 translation jobs**



**450 hours**

## Tauranga Multicultural Festival 2023

This year's festival which was held on 18th March 2023 was a huge success with more than 6000 visitors. We had a long list of VIPs including the Minister for Ethnic Affairs Priyanca Radhakrishnan and Race Relations commissioner Meng Foon. Other VIP's included TCC commissioner Shad Rolleston, Western Bay of Plenty Mayor James Denyer, MP Angie- Warren Clark and Fungai Mhlanga. The day was blessed by an opening karakia by kaumatua Tamati Tata and this was followed by a kapa haka by Arataki school students. A wonderful line up of 32 performances, a variety of cuisines from all across the globe, arts and crafts



and children's activities kept our patrons entertained and engaged. There were many performances by children and youth which highlighted the theme 'Awhiahia Te Rito - Nurture the Young.' Discovery Tents from Sri Lanka, Indonesia, China, and the Philippines shared their culture through musical instrument and vocal displays, architectural landscapes, cultural stories, and geographical detail which was educational and

informative for our patrons. The children's area was buzzing with activity with the Japanese International students and TRMC volunteers organising craft activities, calligraphy, hair braiding, henna, and face-painting for the children. There were several firsts at the Festival. For the first time, a mayoral welcome for International students, run by Education Tauranga and Priority One, was held in the Village Hall at 11 am during



the Multicultural Festival. This event was attended by 200 international students. Another first, saw children at the Festival enjoying workshops on bugs, birds and beasts of NZ Forests. The Festival also hosted music workshops run by youth for youth, for the first time. Local musicians Akash Dutta and Tristan Hancock facilitated these workshops which were educational, fun, and entertaining. They performed the

collaborative music on stage at 4 pm. The Parade of Nations, a permanent fixture, held at noon featured people of more than 35 nationalities. Once again, we saw the pride of ethnic communities as they held their home country flags proudly in their new home.





## 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MIGRANT PŌWHIRI

The 2nd Annual Migrant Pōwhiri was successfully held on the 12th of November 2022 at the Whareroa Marae. Ngāi Te Rangi once again opened their doors of the Marae to welcome migrants and newcomers in the Bay of Plenty through this traditional welcoming ceremony. There were about 350-400 attendees. The tangata whenua, Multicultural Tauranga members, the Council, the community leaders were present along with many VIP's, dignitaries and most importantly the migrants and newcomers.



The day began with the Pōwhiri followed by ethnic speeches, the shared meal, and the performances. Eleven communities in the BOP were represented through speeches and performances - Pacific Island, Cook Island, India, China, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Nepal, Indonesia, Czech Republic, Cambodia, and Latin America. Once again, the migrants left with the feeling of being welcomed into the land. This feeling can be compared to breaking a pot plant and planting it in the soil. They enjoyed learning about and experiencing the hospitality of tangata whenua.

## WHANAUNGATANGA

What people said:

"This is the first time that I have visited a Marae. Thank you for organising this event." - NGO employee

"We don't have anything like this in Germany. It's great to be here." - Migrant

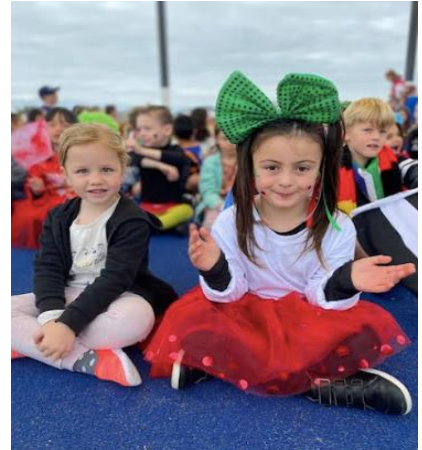
"I work in BECA as an engineer, and I feel privileged to be able to attend today's ceremony." - Newcomer

"Our community members have travelled from Hamilton, and we enjoyed the Pōwhiri. It made us feel welcomed to NZ." - Sri Lankan community member



## MULTICULTURAL DAY 2022

Multicultural Day was celebrated on 26th August 2022. Multicultural Day celebrates NZ as a place where migrants feel empowered and connected. Having a day to celebrate diversity strengthens the feelings of kotahitanga or unity among all people. Invitations to participate were sent to schools and early childhood centres as well as offices to celebrate this day. They were invited to wear cultural attire, share meals, and tell stories to mark the day. Schools that participated were Tauranga Girls College, Papamoa College, Suzanne Aubert Catholic school, Katikati college and Te Puke High school. The Kollektive had a Multicultural lunch on Thursday. In the evening, about 80 people joined together to celebrate the day at the Creative Community campus in the Historic Village. The event was attended by 80 people with Mayor Garry Webber as our chief guest. We were honoured with the presence of Ngāi Te Rangi CEO Paora Stanley and Haidee Kalirai from TCC.



Greenpark school who received \$200, the second prize winner was Eliz Dunn from Pillans Point school, and the third prize winner was Zianab Syed from St. Mary's School. This was followed by a 'multicultural meal' which was enjoyed by all. The evening was concluded with people of all cultures joining in the singing of 'waiata' which was a perfect end to a memorable evening.

On Multicultural Day, we were able to show our appreciation for our ethnic community leaders and well-wishers for the mahi that they do. The prizes for the 'Schools Art competition' organised by Creative Officer Alessandra Tilby, were distributed to some very talented students. This year's Art competition in schools was another great success. The theme of this year's competition was 'The Fingers of one hand- Nga Matimati no te ringa kotahi'. The quality of entries remained high presenting our judges Robert Tilby and Katie Nagar with a hard decision to make. They did an amazing job! The first prize went to Zevida Morris from





# PROJECT COLLABORATIONS

## BAY CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

Bay Conservation Alliance Through a collaboration with Bay Conservation Alliance it has become possible to encourage Migrants to explore our Natural Environment. Janie Stevenson and Luke from Predator BOP facilitated two workshops for migrants. Bugs, Birds & Beasts of NZ The session was held on 19th of July at the Historic Village. At this session, we showcased the unique and rich flora and fauna of NZ to our migrant communities. The children and their parents were able to get to hear about and see some of the pests and predators that threaten the unique birds that live in our forests. They also had the opportunity to explore the forest floor for bugs and insects. Ōtanewainuku Forest Walkshop On 19th of November, 35 adults and children from various cultural backgrounds joined in an amazing walk shop brought to us by Janie and Thomas from Bay Conservation Alliance specially designed to give our new migrants some glimpses into the amazing NZ flora and Fauna at Ōtanewainuku Forest.



## JAM FACTORY

Global Village was an initiative sponsored by the Creative Communities Scheme and supported by Multicultural Tauranga open to musicians who are keen to expand their musical horizons and collaborate with like-minded creatives. This project was coordinated by local musicians/composers Akash Dutta and Tristan Hancock. These sessions have brought together young musicians from all over the world living in the BOP region like Brazilian, Nepalese, and Indian. The second session saw guest musician/educator Tauranga-local Te Reiroa, an expert on Taonga pūoro (traditional Māori musical instruments) discuss the role these instruments played in pre-European Aotearoa. Along with this, he demonstrated instruments made to emulate the sound of songbirds, conch shells and wooden trumpets used during wartime, and percussive instruments that recalled the sounds of traditional Māori tattoo implements. These sessions have helped youth gain a better understanding and appreciation of new/varied musical experiences.





## TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL

### New Year Events with TCC

As part of a new collaboration with Tauranga City Council, Filipino, Middle Eastern, Chinese, Indian, Cambodian and Pacific Island groups and individuals took the stage at the 2022 New Year's Eve community celebrations. This makes our communities more visible as part of the social fabric of the Tauranga community.



## TAURANGA ARTS SOCIETY

### Escape Festival with Tauranga Arts Society

This festival ran from 12th-16th October 2022. The students from Mount Primary interviewed us for a News programme and we were able to highlight the role of Multicultural Tauranga in advocating for migrants. We pointed out how racism is a form of bullying. This interview was played as a part of the news created by the students and the live news programme was played at Baycourt. Our voice was heard alongside principals and leaders in the community.



## WAIATA NIGHTS

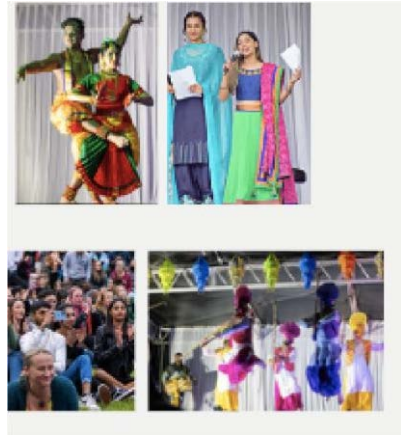
A series of Waiata Nights were held in collaboration with the Ba'hai society where people had the opportunity to learn Māori Waiata.

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
FRIDAY 29	FRIDAY 12	FRIDAY 9	FRIDAY 28	FRIDAY 11
	FRIDAY 26	FRIDAY 23		FRIDAY 25



## Diwali Event with One Love Charity

As part of the collaboration with One Love Chariry, Multicultural Tauranga offered support for the event by supporting and promoting this annual event which is loved by the community. We even offered the services of our Emcee par excellence- Kimberly D'Mello (Past National winner of Race Unity Awards)



## Photographic Exhibition with the Light Lab

An exhibition which was to showcase the cultures who are now here in our city and who have made the Bay of Plenty their home. Among those featured were many familiar faces and a few new ones.

## 50th Anniversary of Elvis on Tour Movie with The Incubator

A successful event screening the movie and a Q&A with the editor Ken Zemle. A full house capacity audience of 60 in the cinema for this very special anniversary event. Cinema goers/Elvis fans travelled locally and from around Aotearoa to attend.



## Waitangi Day 2023 with He Iwi Kotahi Trust

This annual event was held on 6th February 2023 at the Historic Village. TRMC was able to support this event through the contributions of the Filipino, Chinese, and Indian groups and individuals. Through their performance at this event, we are able to pay respect to tangata whenua.





## Tairāwhiti Multicultural Council

*"It's been a busy 12 months for Tairāwhiti Multicultural Council with our role expanding, thanks to Ministry of Social Development and our Ethnic Community Connector role which has enabled us to provide food and financial assistance for families or individuals experiencing Covid and requiring Cyclone Gabrielle support. This is on top of the work we have been doing on a voluntary basis. Without the support of our amazing volunteers, funders and sponsors; we would not be able to deliver all that we have"*

– Associate Professor Arish Naresh, MNZM, JP, President

**Since 2022 we have helped 150 families/individuals with over 337 interactions. The various events we have organised has attracted over 10000 people which is incredible given the population of Gisborne is not as high compared to larger parts of the country.**

**Some of our events are as follows:**

### **Diwali 2022**

1000 plus free meals given and over 1000 people enjoyed the festival. It was also our second year holding our Rangoli competition.







1<sup>st</sup> January 2023, TMC Provided 4 performances for the New Year's Day – Fire in the Sky Celebrations including a Dragon Dance

### **February/March 2023**

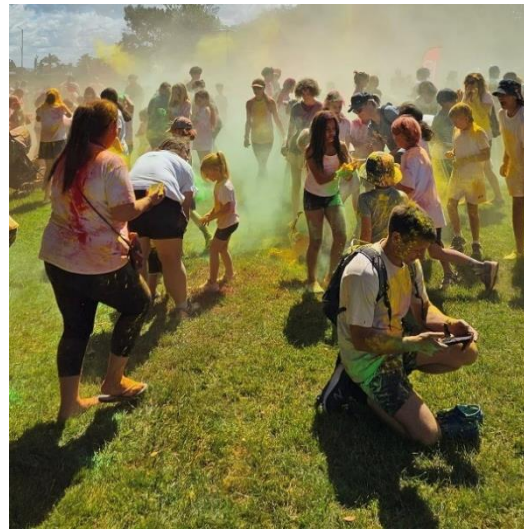
Provided translators and created an Ethnic community's hub with government agencies and Civil Defence to assist our families during response to Cyclone Gabrielle. Working with Gisborne Police 22 planter boxes were positioned at 13 sites to help prevent ram raids. This project received local, regional and national accolades.





## March 2023

Colour Run - We showered over 1200 people in colour including handing out over 800 meals.



OWD socks supporting Frocks on Friday raising money for Hear4U



## May 2023

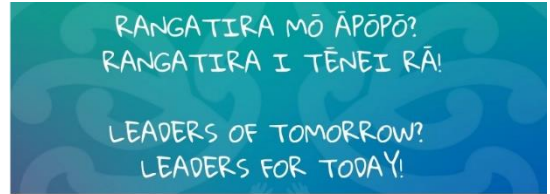
Attended the Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Ethnic Advantage Conference, as a panel speaker - sharing our recovery story and response to Covid and Cyclone Gabrielle.





**May 2023**

Nominated our fantastic youth volunteers – who were recognised at the Gisborne Volunteer Centre Youth Awards for their contribution to building cultural awareness and volunteering their time for TMC events.



25 May 2023

OWD book project has begun.

Youth Volunteer Awards 2023  
Congratulations to all of our well deserved rangitahi recipients.

diversetairawhiti@gmail.com'"/&gt;

**June 2023**

What to do in Emergencies messages translated into 25 languages – supporting our Ethnic Communities to be prepared for future emergencies. Mayor Rehette Stoltz and CDEM Welfare Manager Dallas Haynes also featured in our video which will be made public shortly.





## July 2023

### Classical Music Event



Supported Bollywood Restaurant with their free kai during the cyclone with over 2000 free meals were given to those in need.

## August

International Food Festival - Over 700 people attended the International Food Festival, enjoying the different cuisine from around the world, watching the live local performers and learning more about how to be safe in an emergency.





Disaster Preparedness Workshop for Ethnic Communities attracted over 80 participants with more workshops planned in October/November





## New FREE Service for Migrants/Ethnic Communities

- ❖ ARE YOU A NEW MIGRANT OR A MIGRANT LOOKING TO GROW YOUR CAREER PROSPECTS
  - ❖ NEED ASSISTANCE WITH UPDATING YOUR CV OR ASSISTANCE WITH WRITING A MODERN COVER LETTER
- ❖ IF THE ANSWER TO ABOVE IS YES, THEN EMAIL US AND WE WILL WORK WITH YOU TO UPDATE YOUR CV AND ASSIST WITH YOUR COVER LETTERS
- ❖ OUR EMAIL IS: [diversetairawhiti@gmail.com](mailto:diversetairawhiti@gmail.com)



Future events:



**2023  
DIWALI  
FESTIVAL**

**28th October 2023**  
War Memorial Hall | 6pm

Free Food, Music, Henna Art,  
Rangoli Art and Performances




TAIRAWHITI JAPANESE COMMUNITY IN PARTNERSHIP  
WITH TAIRAWHITI MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL BRING YOU



**JAPAN DAY**  
**SAVE THE DATE** 

**28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023** **FREE**  
**10AM - 2PM | VENUE: TREBLE COURT** **EVENT**

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE BEAUTIFUL ART, CUISINE  
AND PERFORMANCES THAT WILL GIVE EVERYONE A  
TASTE OF THE BEAUTIFUL JAPANESE CULTURE. MORE  
DETAILS TO BE PROVIDED SOON.




OPPORTUNITIES WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION



**COLOUR RUN**

**SAVE THE DATE** **2.5KM | 11AM**  
**13.04.24** **MARINA PARK**

FREE FOOD & REFRESHMENTS TO BE PROVIDED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS  
AT THE END OF THE EVENT. EVENT IS FREE BUT KOHA IS APPRECIATED.







## Rotorua Multicultural Council

### Highlights of events and programmes of 2022/23

#### Introduction

The Rotorua Multicultural Council (RMC) offers a wide range of programmes that supports migrants while they settle in Rotorua; increases their understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi; provides them with opportunities to showcase their cultures; and helps them to raise awareness of the contribution that migrants make to the Rotorua community. Funding is received from the Lottery Grants Board, the Ministries for Ethnic Communities and Social Development, Rotorua Lakes Council, Geyser Community Foundation, Creative Rotorua, Rotorua Civic Arts, Rotorua Trust, BayTrust, Te Tatau o Te Arawa, and the Police.

We have three part-time staff members with a substantial part of our programme brought to life by volunteers. A characteristic of our culture is collaboration; we work with iwi, Te Tatau o Te Arawa, the Welcoming Communities Coordinator, schools, Rotorua Lakes Council, English Language Partners, the Rotorua Library, The Arts Village, Plunket Rotorua, Rotorua Community Hospice, Parksyde, Rotary Clubs, Dress for Success, the Citizens Advice Bureau, the Rotorua Police, Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology, the Rotorua Hospital, the Hospital Chaplaincy, and numerous ethnic communities to deliver our programmes.

#### Multicultural Lunches

Monthly Multicultural Lunches in the Rotorua Library are a key programme of the RMC, with a different ethnic group hosting each month. The lunches are popular among retired Rotorua residents who enjoy mingling with the migrant community. About 70 to over 130 guests from 10 to 15 ethnic groups attend each lunch. These events allow the migrants to share their cultural identity with the local community; and to make residents aware of the contribution that migrants make to our community.



Over the year, the hosts were from Chile, Cook Islands, Sri Lanka, Palestine, Sweden, Tibet, El Salvador, China, Vietnam, and Te Arawa.

We celebrated Matariki at the Multicultural Lunch in June 2023 with funding from Te Tatau o Te Arawa and Rotorua Trust. The students and teachers of Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Koutu gave an outstanding kapa haka performance.

## Rotorua Sri Lankan Association

The President of RMC helped the Sri Lankan community of Rotorua to register as an incorporated society by drafting its constitution in consultation with the community.

The Rotorua Sri Lankan Association organised a day to celebrate the Sri Lankan Poson Day at The Arts Village. They offered yoga sessions and meditation, and a traditional dinner. Members of the community organise classes to teach traditional singing and dancing to children and adults.



## Latin America Fiesta at the Rotorua Night Market

The third Rotorua Latin American Fiesta was held in 2023. The event created an opportunity to come together and enjoy the traditional dances, crafts, and food of migrants from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Paraguay, and Peru. By sharing Latin American culture, by having Latino music and singing, and by the enthusiasm with which the local residents participated in the dancing, the awareness of Latin American customs and culture among the Rotorua public was increased.



## Waitangi Day at Ohinemutu

For the third year the RMC participated in Waitangi Day Celebrations at Ohinemutu. We were privileged to be invited to contribute to this celebration. Groups of migrants prepared ethnic food; there were ethnic performers on the stages, and everybody enjoyed participating in the Parade of Nations.





## Professional Speaking for Migrants course

RMC has offered the Professional Speaking for Migrants course once per year for the past twelve years. The course is funded by the Tertiary Education Commission via the Mokoia Community Association. Nine students gained the Speech NZ Certificate in Professional Speaking in the 2022 course. The course is free to students but they pay

the Speech NZ examination fee; scholarships are available to part-fund these fees from the Geyser Community Foundation for students suffering financial hardship. The 2022 course had students from Costa Rica, India, Iran, Korean, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Ukraine.



## Women's Wellbeing Programme



The Women's Wellbeing Programme is designed to help women of all cultures to fully realise their potential by visiting places around Rotorua to find out about the services that are available to them and their families. The programme is based on the ideas of the Women's Wellbeing Framework Navigator's Handbook and Coordinator's Handbook which were written with input from the Women's Council of the NZ Federation of Multicultural Councils. After a Covid break of a few years, we were able to restart the Women's Wellbeing Programme.

The migrants on the 2023 ten-week programme were from India, Italy, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and the USA. Even those who had lived in Rotorua for decades discovered new resources at the Rotorua Library. Grace, a migrant herself, took the group on a wonderfully informative tour. The Programme included visits to Ohinemutu Village, English Language Partners, Rotorua Police Station, Citizens Advice Bureau, Whakarewarewa Forest, and Dress for Success. There were also workshops on CV writing and the New Zealand education system. The programme was of particular value to a blind migrant who is not doing the Professional Speaking course.

## Cultural Conversation about death workshops

The purpose of the Rotorua Multicultural Hospice Support group is to increase awareness of the services provided by Hospice among the migrant communities, and to provide training to Hospice staff on customs and beliefs related to dying, death and burial in different religions.

A series of talks, Cultural Conversations about Death and Dying, was open to Hospice nurses and other members of staff, clinical staff and social workers from the Rotorua Hospital, the Hospital Chaplaincy, members of Compassionate Communities, and the public. This programme was funded by the Community Organisations Grant Scheme.



## Environmental Wellbeing in Geyserland

As part of RMC's Environmental Wellbeing programme, Rotorua Lakes Council hosted an informative Waste Management workshop.

A visit to the Ngongotaha Trout Hatchery was a collaboration between with the Geyser Community Foundation (for funding), Fish and Game (for the venue, talk and tour at the trout hatchery), Rotorua Anglers Association (for a presentation and casting demonstration for trout fishing), the Rotary Club of Rotorua (for good company and networking), and the Rotorua Multicultural Council (for introducing migrants of many ages to another hidden treasure in our environment).



## Multicultural Rotorua Sports Tournaments

RMC participated in the Rotorua United Seven-a-Side Summer Football League. We had twelve players from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Czech, El Salvador, France, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Spain.

In December 2022, cultures of the world joined together at the Rotorua United Football Club to celebrate diversity, unity, and friendship with the Rotorua Multicultural Football U&I tournament. It was a huge success with players, spectators, volunteers, guests, and visitors creating a positive

atmosphere of sportsmanship for everyone to enjoy. Ten teams with 130 players participated. They were from Argentina, Chile, the Cook Islands, El Salvador, England, Fiji, India, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, the Philippines, Rumania, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Tibet, Ngāti Pīkiao, Ngāti Rangiteaorere, Tūhoe, and Tūhourangi.

## Police-Multicultural Tennis Tournament

RMC's first Police Multicultural Tennis Tournament was held at the Rotorua Tennis Club in April 2023. This was a new way to build multicultural friendships and strengthen the relationships between the Police and Rotorua's migrant community. Fifty players competed in the tournament. They were from Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, El Salvador, France, Japan, India, Malaysia, Norway, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, the Philippines, the UK, the USA, and New Zealand.





## Rotary Multicultural Dinner

After a Covid-induced break of two years, the Rotary Club of Rotorua and RMC joined forces with the Rotorua Indian Association to organise the fourth Rotary Multicultural Dinner, held in the Mahatma Gandhi Hall. Twelve migrants from 12 home countries each spoke for a few minutes about their journey to Rotorua and about what they now contribute to our community. About 80 guests and 20 volunteers attended the dinner.



## Rotorua Local Heritage Week

On the invitation of the Rotorua Library, RMC participated in He Kete Rau Mahara Local Heritage Week by bringing together panelists to share their migration stories.

The speakers were from Chile, Fiji, the Philippines, South Africa and Sri Lanka.

## Children's Day

Rotorua Lakes Council organised a Children's Day on the Village Green in March 2023. RMC organised a Latin American dance workshop, the Japanese drummers performed, and there were mask makers and chess players.



## Rotorua Careers Expo

RMC participated in the Careers Expo in May 2023 at the Energy Event Centre. The Careers Expo brings together many employers and training providers to inform students and their parents about the huge array of career paths available to today's young people. Students participated in a quiz about "Which world monument is that?" at the RMC stall.



## Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Koutu

Spanish-speaking Latin American volunteers from RMC ran workshops in Latino crafts, dance and cooking at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Koutu. At this school, students from Year 1 to Year 13 learn Spanish as well as Te Reo Māori.



## Rotorua Lakes High School

Some of the Year 12 and Year 13 students at Rotorua Lakes High School spent lunchtimes learning Merengue, the national dance of the Dominican Republic. RMC received huge thanks from Rotorua Lakes High School for sponsoring this experience and helping the students get some dance moves under their belts for the school ball. It was a great opportunity for the students to learn about another culture and broaden their horizons.



## Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology

RMC organises a community welcome for each group of newly arrived international students at Toi Ohomai. Well-settled migrants from each of the students' home countries go to Mokoia Campus to tell them about the events offered by RMC and to invite them to our events. They are encouraged to join the Rotorua ethnic associations of their own cultures. The students split into country groups where they are then told about where they can buy food ingredients for their home cooking, where they can find a doctor who speaks their language, and whether there is a church or temple of their religion in Rotorua.



A group of RMC members went to Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology to meet with students who were studying cultural diversity. They had follow-up discussions at the homes of the migrants in which the students explored differences between their own and other cultures. At the meeting in the whareniui of Tangatarua Marae, we were joined by a group of international students who are studying English.





## Kaingaroa Forest School

A very successful event was held at Kaingaroa Forest School in June 2023. We were there with five Chinese umbrella dancers, performers on Japanese and African drums, and a Cuban teacher of Latin American dancing, to celebrate Matariki. The tamariki were very quick learners on the drums and they loved participating in the dancing.



## Rotorua Police Ethnic Advisory Board

The Rotorua Police Ethnic Advisory Board, chaired by the Area Commander of Police Superintendent Herby Ngawhika, met for the first time in July 2023.

Members of RMC are well represented among the Advisory Board membership of eight migrants. On the right is Ethnic Liaison Officer Constable Weiwei Verran, with Rajind Seneviratne from Sri Lanka, Rotorua's Welcoming Community Coordinator, next to her.





**MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL**  
**RANGITĪKEI/WHANGANUI**  
HELPING NEWCOMERS FEEL AT HOME

## Multicultural Council of Rangitikei/Whanganui

We farewell the previous year and welcome this new year with well-planned events for the current year, even though there was a lot of cautionary measures taken as the pandemic is still lurking around. 2022/2023 financial year was a productive one. To our surprise, we received an AWARD from the Prime Ministers for our effort and contribution during COVID lockdowns between 2020-2022.

### Events



We started with a Mother's Day celebration organised by Teena Lawrence who organised activities for the children to make mothers feel special. This event was held at Whanganui Learning Centre. We thank them whole heartedly for providing us with the venue.



Our annual event, Feast and Festival, was held at Te Matapihi, an \$8million community Centre in Bulls, which was attended by over300 people who came from the neighbouring townships like Sanson, Hunterville, Marton, and of course Whanganui. The performers and their families came from Wellington.





Our team (Robin, Teena, and I) hit the road on a regional day trip to Raetihi, Ohakune and Taihape. We met with community leaders, dropped off brochures to Health and information Centres. We concluded our journey with a lunch meeting and then gifted COVID wellbeing packs (homemade) to Taihape ethnic community.

In the Rangitikei region we attended Marton Harvest Festival, Spring Fling in Taihape and Marton Market Day. We did this for marketing purposes - to have a visible presence, so that communities know we are there if they need us.

Last year's Christmas party was well represented by different ethnic groups and those who could make it to the event though it hosed down with rain. The guest speakers talked about legal system emphasising on Wills, home and property law. Sandra Morris also shared on her upcoming workshop on Ethnic Story Writing and Illustrating. Also, there was acknowledged the receipt of QSM for President.

To start 2023 in January, we organised a picnic in the park which was very well attended, approximately 40 people passing through and enjoying the kai we provided and various activities for young as well as not so young. Stats NZ and Falan Dafa also held stall. Multicultural Council most sincerely thanks to Unity Food, Azian and family for doing the mahi of food preparation and Chinese cultural committee for teaching how to make dumpling which was cooked to share with everyone. A salute goes to Azian her family and the late Sonny Barlows.



About 15 people went to a Noho Marae (overnight stay) at Te Ao Hou in Aramoho, attended by quite a few different ethnic groups including seniors and children. Attendees experienced Pōwhiri, karakia, food preparation, protocols, and we engaged in deep discussions around Mauri from our own cultural backgrounds. We also had cultural exchanges. These included a kava ceremony, Chinese Tea ceremony, meditation. We enjoyed singing Waiata, and the tamariki composed a welcome song in different languages.

To contribute towards the care of environment for the last 3 years, during Sea Week, we do a beach up collecting rubbish from Castlecliff Beach. Over the years we have noticed more and more families come along to support us during that day and collect about 93kgs of recyclables and rubbish included a dead goat, a sofa weighing 220kgs. Once again thank you to the late Sonny and Azian from Unity Foods for their excellent mahi of feeding the volunteers, Suzuki for providing financial support, all the volunteers, the Surf Life Savers and Nippers.





Multicultural Council were also able to support and attend the first Potluck Dinner in Bulls, hosted by La Bull Cafe, in collaboration with Welcoming Communities Rangitikei.

Race Unity Week was celebrated at the Art Gallery with 4 different ethnic crafts and a panel discussion on success of migrant/ethnic women. This was also to observe International Women's Day. It was interesting to hear these 4 powerful women speak on their personal experiences of racism and how they dealt with it.





Robin and Teena worked hard to complete the strategic plan for Rangitikei/Whanganui's which launched formally in the District Council Chamber of the Mayor Hamish. The council provided light refreshment after the launch.

Robin and Teena represented Multicultural Council at Filipino Sports Day where we contributed \$500.00 towards organising that event. Other events attended by our volunteers include Unity Food's first birthday, Barsanti Kindergarten 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, Asians in the Bay Awards, Hui Fono in Nelson, Chinese Language Week, Pride Week, Peace Through Unity Handspun 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Christmas in the Park, New Year's Unity Community picnic, Holi, and the annual Fest of Cultural Unity, Diwali and Universal College of Learning (UCOL) of learning connect days twice a year.

Speaking of Awards, our Organisation entered the local Business Awards, and made it into the finals. Although we didn't win a category, the overall experience gave us great insight and tested our new systems.

Robin, Diana and I went to a Refugee Hui at the Parliament and our volunteers continue to contribute to workshops held by various government departments, including attending regular Welcoming Communities Meetings that takes place quarterly, playing a major role towards achievement of the goals for new-comers into the district.

Eros, Our Youth leader attended a 2-day workshop organised by Multicultural New Zealand (MNZ). Leadership Training was done on Kāpiti Island. His feedback was that he learnt heaps but unfortunately, we cannot have his services, now that he is at Uni trying to chase a dream. We are looking for young people to recruit so that Eros's hard work is continued.

There is a seniors' get together every Thursday at the Multicultural House. This encourages just chit/chats, jokes/laughter and communication amongst the vulnerable Ethnic communities, who feel isolated. Once in a while, we go out to other venues for a change and road trips. We are planning to take them for holidays (further afield). We also provide computer lessons and other digital technology to our seniors.

Women Council... we have not done much with women's events, although they are the backbone of this organisation. Women working as volunteers with the Council is a training itself that has led some of them in bigger opportunities as in jobs and career prospects. Furthermore, we are looking at organising Women's Well-being workshops throughout Whanganui and Rangitikei District in the near future.

Disaster relief...Multicultural Council Rangitikei Whanganui donated \$1000.00 towards Mayoral relief to help the hurricane and flood-stricken areas of Hawke's Bay area.

I personally would like to thank all the volunteers who stand by us to help execute our activities and without them jobs cannot be done to the full extent. And my special thanks go to Jeshneel, Grant and all other dedicated volunteers for their tireless effort.

**Pushpa Prasad**  
**President**  
**Multicultural Council of Rangitikei/Whanganui**



## Porirua Multicultural Council

The Porirua Multicultural Council was established in 2018. We are a non-profit organisation which supports new migrants, former refugees, and newcomers settle into the Porirua region, providing community connections and opportunities for individuals from all walks of life. Our vision is to 'Empower a Te Tiriti based multicultural community in Aotearoa'.

Our values are **Unity, No Racism, Empowerment, & Peace.**

Porirua Multicultural Council whānau represent passionate individuals who have a heart for the community. It is important that we as a council continue to learn and build our capabilities so that we can be better equipped to support our communities into the future.





Mingalar ba, Namaste, Sabaidee, 你好, 你好吗,  
こんにちは, Hola, Oimore uru, Asalam Alaikum, Mālō  
ni, Mālō le soifua & Greetings!

Greetings to you all, I hope this message finds you and your loved ones well & keeping warm during these winter months. My name is Jenny Taotua-O'Carroll, and I am the (interim) President for the Porirua Multicultural Council Inc. I took on the role from Soulivone Phonevilay in May of this year. I am a proud founding member of the PMC and have held various roles since 2018. Previously before taking on the interim role, I held the position of Vice President.

We as a council take pride in the community work and service, we are able to provide for our communities. Our board & Committee members have worked to the best of their abilities to ensure that we uphold the values of our council. To ensure that first and foremost we can be an organisation where our new migrants & former refugee migrants are aware of the services and feel safe and supported.

We also want to ensure that as a Te Tiriti based council, we uphold Tikanga Māori in everything that we do. We recognise that as Tangata Tiriti, we acknowledge the land in which we stand on. We honour Mana Whenua and will continue to forge strong relationships with Mana Whenua- Ngāti Toa This year the PMC whānau have seen some great successes and achievements that we are very proud of.

I acknowledge all the hard work of our members and our staff who have joined us this year. I would also like to acknowledge the outgoing Treasurer Metapere Rei former Treasurer for her service to PMC. This report provides a snapshot of what we as a council have been able to achieve in the last financial year.

Blessings,

*Jenny Taotua-O'Carroll (Interim President 2023)*

# Your PMC Board 2022-2023



**Jenny Taotua-O'Carroll**  
Interim President (outgoing)



**Soulivone Phonevilay**



**Maria Toalei**  
Secretary (outgoing)



**Dr Prasuna Reddy**  
Treasurer (outgoing)



**Felix Jaboon**  
Committee Member



**Naomi Siania**  
Committee Member



**Dawn Khanchaleun-Tararo**  
Committee Member



**Rassem Elfares**  
Committee Member



**Gina Dao-McLay**  
Committee Member (outgoing)



## Overview of Events: August 2022- July 2023

### PMC Annual General Meeting, August 2022

PMC held our Annual General Meeting in person at Horouta Marae on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2022. We thanked the outgoing board members who had served on the committee and welcomed on board the newly elected members. We welcomed six new members to the PMC which was a great achievement.



### Treaty Based Multicultural Day – August 2022

On the last Friday of August each year in Aotearoa N.Z, Te Tiriti based Multicultural Day is celebrated. This is a day for people of all races and ethnicities to showcase and celebrate their cultures, and to share with one another. Then President Soulivone held an event at her place of work at the Ministry of Health. The MNZ President Pancha Narayanan was able to come along and talk to staff members about the importance of celebrating and embracing each other's unique and diverse cultures. This was a fun-filled successful event.





## International Conference on Cohesive Societies – Singapore – September 2022

Representatives from the Multicultural Council of New Zealand including PMC executive members attended the 2nd International Conference on Cohesive Societies in Singapore from 6th-8th September 2022. With over 2000 delegates from nearly 40 countries, ICCS provided a platform to share diverse perspectives and opportunity to forge networks across communities. ICCS Singapore have been spearheading global unity, understanding of different faiths, beliefs, and ethnic cultures through proactive community activities, creating a safe space without the intention to convert, but respecting diversity and finding the common ground in order to build and uphold social cohesion and harmony.

This conference highlighted to PMC members who attended that here in Aotearoa, NZ we are raising the bar and already doing amazing things for and with our communities. We are very fortunate to live in a diverse city that is embracing of all cultures and religions, however as a council, we know we cannot be complacent but continue to do the mahi and ensure that our communities are supported and equipped with the knowledge, learnings, and wisdom of what a Te Tiriti Based Community looks like in our city.



## REAL TALK – Youth Day Out – September 2022

REAL TALK is a whānau run business created by Porirua born and raised community member Tania Carr. Tania is on a mission to change the trajectory of youth degradation in Aotearoa by providing healing platforms and pathways for rangatahi. PMC took a group of rangatahi from refugee background to Levin on Saturday September 24th, 2022, to listen and hear some amazing stories to encourage and inspire our own young leaders who want to make a difference in our city. We were fortunate to have our staff member and honorary member Kodrean take our rangatahi to Levin. We hope to provide more platforms like these ones for our youth.





## Volunteering NZ & Hui E! – October 2022

Hui E in collaboration with Volunteering New Zealand hosted the Vu Le Parliamentary Event. Vu Le is a former executive director for a non-profit based in Seattle and advocates for more access and funding equity. They also advocate on the need for systems change within the nonprofit sector. Soulivone Phonevilay the PMC president at the time was invited to be a guest panellist to talk about her experiences volunteering in Porirua with PMC.



### Connecting with Partners – Voice of Aroha

PMC is very proud to know that we have amazing key partners that we can call our whānau. In October 2022 some of our board members were fortunate to be interviewed by Voice of Aroha, a radio broadcasting platform to share information and updates for our former refugee migrant communities. We are very proud of the work that Voice of Aroha are doing in the Wellington region. We were able to share about our journeys and our reasons why we do what we do and serve our community in Porirua. It was a very inspiring session. Thank you for the opportunity to CEO Kodrean Eashae and the team at VOA for having us.







## Celebrating Diwali Festival – October 2022

Every year the PMC attend the DIWALI FESTIVAL and this year was another amazing, colourful, and bright year for our Indian communities of Wellington. Members from our executive team attended and had a blast, from representing in the beautiful attire, to tasting amazing cuisines and lastly enjoying the festivities and performances that DIWALI FESTIVAL in the HUTT had to offer. We look forward to attending again in the near future.

## PMC Strategic Planning Day with MNZ – October 2022

On Saturday October 29th, Pancha Narayana the President of Multicultural New Zealand federation of Councils hosted a Strategic Planning Day for the PMC Leaders. With new leadership in the team, it was important to share the vision and mission of what we do as a Multicultural Council. PMC was able to put together a five-year Strategic plan that board and committee members will work together on to achieve thriving communities, young people and build more leaders in this space.



## Celebrating Nepal Day – November 2022

PMC leaders attended the first National Nepal Day held at Parliament. It was great to learn more about the beautiful country of Nepal and indulge in the festivities and culture held at Parliament.





## Project Management Day of Service – November 2022

Friday November 9, PMC were selected to attend the Project Management Day of Service (PMDOS) at Parliament. Hosted by the Project Management Institute of New Zealand, we were 'matched' with a team of consultants who worked with PMC to create a road map to provide a solution to a problem or initiative.

PMC would like to acknowledge Mathew Beaulieu, Michael Kane and Cameron Dittmer for their time and volunteering to help PMC on this day. It was great to get their expertise to develop a system and process for PMC's operations.

## PMC Annual Christmas Drop – December 2022



PMC provided Christmas gifts to some of our community children in Porirua. This is the second year we have been able to provide Christmas gifts to our community families and their children. A huge thank you to some of the exec team who were able to do drop offs around the Porirua and Tawa area. I was fortunate to drop off some gifts to our children a week before Christmas and seeing smiles all round on the young children's faces and also the parents made me proud. This is an annual giving for PMC, and it is the hope that we can get more partners to support this amazing initiative by donating Christmas gifts for children.

Picture used with kind permission from the parents!

## New PMC Office Space – February 2023

After five long years of booking a room from the English Language Partners School to host our meetings and paying for venues to host our events. The day came in February when the PMC were very blessed to lease our first office. From humble beginnings to this day where as a council we felt very proud to hold our own and have a space for our community meetings and also prepare for incoming staff to lead the mahi and work in the office. We would like to acknowledge our funding partners, Wellington Community Trust Funding and Department of Internal Affairs. We were grateful to have received funding to pay for our one-year lease. Our PMC team came through to do a major clean of our office space situated in the ELP school at 7 Hartham Place, Porirua. Thank you to all our members for your support. Thank you to our dial a fixer/carpenter Felix and the crew who have come in to lift heavy furniture and put things on our wall. We appreciate all our supporters and team who have donated furniture to make our space home!



## New Staff for PMC – April 2023

PMC was fortunate to hold a contract with Ministry of Social Development under the 'Flexi-wage Projects in the Community Fund. The fund supports and champions the work of organisations like PMC with a short-term FTE. Funding is held for 30 weeks. A special thank you to Findlay Siania from Work and Income (Porirua) for planting that seed a year ago at the PMC AGM. From these ongoing conversations



PMC were able to employ two new staff members. Introducing our fabulous Office Manager Lyndsey Herberley who manages the day to day running of PMC at the office along with managing the two staff members.

Lyndsey is a local and also a busy mum to her beautiful children who attend Rangikura Primary School. Sandhy Keomany is our Communications Officer, a recent Tertiary graduate, PMC are very blessed to have her genius and creative mind & expertise working behind the scenes and updating our community via all our social media platforms. Since Sandhy started with us the PMC social media platforms have been active and alive for the first time and this has been great to see.

Sandhy is from Stokes Valley, and she is learning so much about this beautiful city of ours. We are very fortunate to have Nguyen Uyen Vy Tran join our staff and is contracted as our PMC Project Coordinator. Vy is from Vietnam and completed her master's at Victoria University of Wellington in 2022. She currently works part-time and has just commenced her PhD journey. We are blessed to have our amazing staff members who are holding the fort down and leading in our organisation.



## PMC SGM – May 2023

May 4th PMC held a Special General Meeting, adjudicated by Porirua City Councillor Mr Geoff Haywards. It was a great evening to bring our team together and to welcome Dr Prasuna Reddy to the PMC board as Treasurer.

Dr Prasuna comes with a wealth of knowledge and expertise sitting on Governance Boards. Born in India, Dr Prasuna has spent a lot of her time living in England, America, and Australia.

Dr Prasuna has held significant executive and senior academic teaching and research positions in Australian, British and New Zealand universities and government-funded research centres.

We are very blessed to have someone of Dr Prasuna's calibre be a member of our council.





### MNZ Immigration Conference – May 2023

Multicultural New Zealand hosted a 2-day immigration conference. The theme of the conference titled "Te Tiriti-Based Multicultural Aotearoa towards 2040". The main focus for this conference was on 'Population Strategy', Te Tiriti-based multiculturalism and the cultural infrastructure critical to successful settlement.



Four delegates from PMC attended this conference hosted by MNZ. This was an opportunity to discuss the current policy about Immigration in New Zealand and hear from people's experiences from around the country. There were guest speakers ranging from Government Officials, Academics, and community leaders.

### Community Workshops with Hui E! – May/June 2023



PMC had the wonderful opportunity to partner with Hui E Community Aotearoa who are an organisation that work with community groups to build their capabilities in every aspect of life, advocate for change and support communities to thrive. A series of two workshops were held in Porirua in May and June.

The purpose of this hui was to provide practical solutions for ethnic community organisations, promote stronger connections, and facilitate resource sharing. We had over 10 community organisations participate and shared their kaupapa. A special shout out to Pohswan Narayanan (former President of Upper Hutt Multicultural Council) and Soulivone who were on the panel to share their experiences with applying for funding with their respective organisations.



## Porirua National Action Plan Against Racism – July 2023

Multicultural NZ & Iwi forum leaders in collaboration with PMC brought communities together to discuss, raise issues and concerns on racism in our community. It was important and timely to have these conversations as they will feed into the Government's National Action Plan Against Racism. MNZ are guiding communities to develop our local action plans against racism. Racism is global and entrenched.



Around the world, countries are creating practical plans to end racism. The NZ Government have committed to developing a national action plan against racism that reflects the history, challenges, and aspirations of New Zealand. The aim of the action plan is to progressively eliminate racism of all form. More work is needed for Porirua to create their action plan. This work will continue in the new year.

## Porirua LOVE LOCAL EXPO 2023

In June our PMC Staff worked hard behind the scenes to organise our team for the LOVE LOCAL EXPO held in Porirua annually. In its fourth year the expo at Te Rauparaha Arena showcases the best of our local products, services, and community services. PMC Staff and Board members had a lot of fun meeting the community and raising the profile of PMC to our local community.



A huge thank you to the whole team for your involvement from collection of our cultural taonga to decorate our beautiful space. We were extra excited to showcase and give away our PMC brochures and note pads to our community not to mention we even had our own T-Shirts. What may seem small to others was a big deal to our small tight-knit team.



## Special Acknowledgements for PMC

### Porirua Mayoral Civic Awards 2023

In June of this year the founding President of PMC Soulivone Phonevilay & interim President for PMC Jenny Taotua- O'Carroll each received Porirua CIVIC Awards from the Mayor Anita Baker. The Porirua Civic awards recognise locals who have made a significant contribution to the Porirua Community. Soulivone received a Civic award for her leadership with PMC as well as her tireless work she has done in supporting the Laos community and mentoring young Laos women. Jenny received her award and recognised for 25 years of service supporting Pacific youth and providing pastoral and motivational support for young women facing mental health challenges along with her voluntary work and dedication to the Porirua Multicultural Council. Congratulations!



### PMC Wins Wellington Airport Regional Award!

To top off what has been a busy successful year for PMC. We were absolutely elated when we were named as one of the finalists for the Wellington Regional Airport Awards in the Arts and Culture category. We were up against some amazing groups that have been and continuing to amazing work in our hometown of Porirua and serving our communities. The focus of the awards is to celebrate volunteers for their valuable contribution to society. The event was held at Pātaka and to our great delight and surprise we were called out as the winners of the Wellington Regional Airport awards. The award was accepted by the interim PMC President Jenny Taotua-O'Carroll.



## **Community and Stakeholder Acknowledgements**

- Mana Whenua- Ngāti Toa
- Kaumātua Leaders Taku Parai & Matiu Rei
- PMC Patron- Her worship Mayor Anita Baker
- Porirua City Council
- Wellington Community Trust
- DIA- New Zealand Lotteries- Winifred Mahowa
- Hutt Trust Foundation
- Porirua Councillor- Geoff Haywards (Onepoto Ward)
- Pātaka- Director- Ana Sciascia, Curator Māori/Moana- Jackie Leota-Mua
- Multicultural New Zealand - Pancha Narayanan, Gurtej Singh & Team
- Upper Hutt Multicultural Council- Pohswan Narayanan & Team
- Wellington Multicultural Council - Prem Singh
- NZ Police & Ethnic Liaison Officers- Phil Pithyou & John Zhu
- English Language Partners Porirua (Arif Ali & Team)
- ChangeMakers Resettlement Forum- Jacqs Wilton
- Hui E!
- Lao Community of Wellington
- Syrian Community of Wellington
- Columbian Community of Wellington
- Indian Community of Wellington
- Nepal Community of Wellington
- Pacific Community of Porirua
- Horouta Marae
- Voice of Aroha- Kodrean Eashae & Team
- Hui E! Community Aotearoa
- Volunteer NZ
- PMC Cultural advisor - Anton O'Carroll
- E Tū Whānau
- Asian Family Services
- Ministry of Ethnic Communities
- Ministry of Social Development
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry for Pacific Peoples- Pacific Language Weeks
- Ministry of Health - Te Whatu Ora
- Interpreting Services
- Porirua Newcomers Hapori Kaiwhakatere- Andrea Buckland
- Wellington Airport Regional Community Awards
- ABS Accounting Services (Lower Hutt)- Mani Savatdy
- Mathew Beaulieu, Michael Kane, and Cameron Dittmer (PMDOS)
- Real Talk- Tania Carr



## Multicultural Nelson Tasman

*Thank you to every person who uplifts someone else's life, whether through words, actions, or just being there. Through our struggles in life, I have seen such immense kindness, care and aroha that I cannot help but feel gratitude and joy. Though I had to step down as Chair due to family health issues, the outpouring of support from our multicultural whānau demonstrates the goodness of humanity. Our board unanimously voted Marie Lindaya to be our acting Chair in September. To all our board members (past and present), Anna, our manager, Ramiesha, our admin and projects officer and everyone who celebrates 'Unity in Diversity', thank you from the bottom of my heart.*



Mary Bronsteter 4.2023

*"The diversity in the human family should be the cause of love and harmony, as it is in music where many different notes blend together in the making of a perfect chord."*

'Abdu'l-Baha'



# Highlights of 2022:

What a whirlwind of a year, starting out with the threat of Omicron and the move to Red Alert which put a disappointing stop to our wonderful plans for our annual Tasman Asian Night Food Fair as well as Multicultural Festival. By September 2022, most restrictions were all lifted. Despite all the changes, Multicultural Nelson Tasman celebrated many wonderful multicultural activities and events.

## We Moved!

After months of looking, in April we finally moved to a more visible and spacious office at 3/63 Collingwood Street Nelson (behind Community Law). We invited communities to use our space when they needed somewhere to host meetings in town, or even do a bit of admin work. The first example of this was the Indonesian Embassy diplomatic staff utilising our space on a Saturday morning to process passports for Indonesians living in the region- saving many families from having to travel to Wellington.



## Multicultural Football Tournament

The universal language and joy of football brought 10 teams playing fast and furious over 2 days in March representing many cultures and ethnicities. Chin Community 1 won 'the competitive' grade while the Bhutanese team took the 'social' grade award and the Spirit ward went to Botanics United.



Somali-born Ahmed Osman and MNT board member who plays for FC Nelson said that after coming to New Zealand as a young refugee, football played a huge role as he was growing up, "it helped me integrate as a kid, make new friends and adapt to a new culture and country". Huge turnout enjoyed by all. This will be an annual event for sure.



## MNT meeting with IseL Ladies Probus Club

MNT and friends enjoyed a special morning sharing stories and diverse backgrounds with members of IseL Ladies Probus club. It was a great opportunity to enhance cross-cultural dialogue and relationships and learn more about those in our community.

Special thanks to our friends from Nelson Whakatū Muslim Association (NWMA), Aotearoa Latin American Community (ALAC) in Nelson and our Board member Maria Uhrle for sharing their stories.





## Feedback to Project Kōkiri

MNT honed in on the potential of an emerging multicultural economy in its feedback to the draft Nelson Tasman Regeneration 2021-2031 (Project Kōkiri). Prepared by Maria Uhrle (MNT Board Member), it was a thoroughly and professionally researched 17-page report. Recommending the multicultural economy as ‘spotlight on’ area, Maria noted ways that ethnic communities could contribute to some of the 35 projects proposed in the Regeneration Plan.



These projects included attracting visitors to the region with vibrant festivals, support to ethnic food restaurants, regional ethnic products and art and a multi-purpose multicultural hub - offering help for an increasingly ethnically diverse workforce and for multicultural business development. Recommendations also include ensuring the plan for economic regeneration aligns with aspects of the Government’s Former Refugees, Recent Migrants and Ethnic Communities Employment Action Plan, and that the multicultural community is represented in the Project Kōkiri leadership team going forward.



## Multicultural Projections for TUKU22

A stunning visual display of images from past multicultural festivals in Nelson, teamed with art work from former refugee and migrant artists were projected onto a wall near the Nelson iSite during a week in May. This was brought to our community as part of Tuku22 Whakatū Heritage Months by Multicultural Nelson Tasman in collaboration with Cultural Conversations. With thanks to Nelson City Council and the technical and creative team – Klaasz Breukel, Lee Woodman, and Tim Cuff.

## Celebrating World Refugee Day 2022

On World Refugee Day (20 June), Ramiesha and Anna went around some local primary schools to gift them a copy of a lovely picture book called “The Voyage” by Robert Vescio. Told only with one word per page, it is the story of a family fleeing war and making a dangerous trip across the ocean to a new life in a new land. Here they are with Brenda Black at Nelson Central School. Brenda is already a big fan of this lovely book and was happy to receive a copy for the school.



## Collaborative work for “Shared Communities”

In August the report on the Shared Communities project was released. The aim of this initial engagement was to find out about the ways that migrant and former refugee communities would like to celebrate their arts, culture, and heritage in Whakatū Nelson, and what some of the barriers are that may be preventing them from doing this. The report was initiated by MakeShift Spaces, MNT, NCC (and libraries) and Nelson Arts Council with seed funding from the Ministry of Arts, Culture and Heritage. The Consortium hopes that leadership will be secured from the migrant and former refugee communities to make some the ideas a reality moving forward, and an Advisory Group was formed late 2022.

## Free interpreting services pilot for NGOs

Multicultural Nelson Tasman and Interpreting New Zealand worked together to successfully acquire a pot of funding from DIA that enabled non-profit organisations to access free interpreters and break down some of the barriers to access to services for non-English speakers.

## Parenting Workshop for former refugees – Aug & Oct



We had an excellent turn out for our first topic-based information workshop for former refugees, when more than 50 people turned up to Victory Community Centre to hear from a range of guest speakers and service providers about parenting/family-related issues. After hearing from two presenters as a whole group, those in attendance formed four language-specific groups and went with their relevant interpreter around 'stations' set up in the hall to hear in detail from each service provider present.

These included Brain Wave Trust, Banardos, Big Brothers Big Sisters, NZ Police, Community Action on Youth and Drugs (CAYAD) and AOD Clinicians Sabien Blazek and Jay Blazek. We had another wonderful parenting workshop in October and these were able to be held thanks to funding from the Community Capability and Resilience Fund from MSD. Additionally, nothing would also be possible without the hard work of Migrant and Refugee Community Navigator Norma Sequera, and valuable input from community leaders and our guest speakers.

## Cross cultural Awareness Workshops

MNT continues to work in this space, seeking funding for, and coordinating the delivery of cross-cultural workshops, which are then delivered by Birte Becker-Steel from Vis a Vis. Throughout 2022 we held 5 of these workshops across the region. Participants included Nelson Tasman Climate Forum, NMIT and three workshops open to the public including one offered at Motueka. The one-day workshop helps people reflect on their own cultural identity and the impact of beliefs and values, increases knowledge about culturally related behaviour and gain insight into cultural traits beyond confining stereotypes. It provides models and tools to compare and understand cultures better and presents appropriate ways to communicate in different settings and minimise misunderstandings.

**CROSS-CULTURAL AWARENESS WORKSHOPS 2022**

Multicultural Nelson Tasman  
UNITY IN DIVERSITY

Presented by  
**Birte Becker-Steel**  
Business & HR Consultant

Nelson is one of the top three most ethnically diverse cities in New Zealand. We are offering a great opportunity to enhance and develop your skills in cross-cultural interactions.

For more information, call or email Multicultural Nelson Tasman 03 339 0336. OR [info@multiculturalnt.co.nz](mailto:info@multiculturalnt.co.nz)



## Kai and Kōrero



In 2022 we held three more well-attended "Kai and Kōrero" sessions at The Food Factory. These events give participants the chance to learn how to cook a special dish from the host chef's home country, and also to learn more about their culture at the same time.

We enjoyed food from Indonesia with Mini and Feni, Middle Eastern cuisine with Mona, and Moroccan delights from Latifa.



## Diverse Women's Walk



MNT together with Nelson Women's Centre offered a "Diverse Women's Walk" through beautiful Iseel Park, as part of the month-long "Step into Spring" Walking festival that ran across the region in October 2022.

## Welcome to new Police Staff and Hate Crime Programme Workshop

In November an event was held with Police to welcome the new Tasman District Commander, Superintendent Tracey Thompson and the new Ethnic Liaison Officer for Tasman, Constable David Cogger. Community representatives and stakeholders had a chance to meet the new post holders before hearing from the national Police team representatives working on Te Raranga – The Weave, Hate Crime Programme. MNT also organised two earlier meetings with Police in April and August, to look at the refresh of the NZ Police Ethnic Strategy.



## Tauiwi Tautoko



Tackling racialised online hate was the focus as Multicultural Nelson Tasman joined the successful anti-racism project Tauiwi Tautoko. In early April MNT started the 10-week programme off with a full-day hui - commencing the training of a cohort of volunteers keen to learn how to challenge online hate. Funded by InternetNZ, the programme aimed to help people challenge and reverse negative racial stereotypes by supporting people to listen for understanding, find common ground and offer an alternative narrative. Volunteers from Nelson joined with

others from around Aotearoa to attend weekly 1.5-hour workshops, to hone their skills of intervening in often very toxic spaces (usually the comments section) online.

### First one-day Anti-racism and Allyship workshop

Around 25 people turned up on a stormy Saturday in August to attend a full-day workshop looking at practical aspects of anti-racism and allyship. It was facilitated by Jen Bennett from Kind Mind Kai and organised by MNT with funding from Nelson City Council. It was heartening to see so many diverse people from our community willing to step forward and learn new ways of doing things, particularly around staying calm and being able to challenge the casual racism that can often take us by surprise when friends, family, colleagues or strangers come out with unexpected comments.



### Top of the South Working Group Against Racism

This group, which arose organically from the Inclusive Aotearoa Collective Tāhono hui in Oct 2021, continues to meet regularly, to keep a focus on activities and actions, share resources and provide feedback. Coordinated by MNT, current members include: NZ Police, Welcoming Communities Coordinators (Nelson and Tasman), Ministry of Education, Ministry of Ethnic Communities, Community Law, and the Refugee and Migrant Community Navigator.

### Nelson Tasman Settlement Forum Secretariat

MNT continues to provide coordination and secretariat support to the Nelson Tasman Settlement Forum, a group of between 30-40 agencies which meets six-weekly. The Forum works collaboratively to ensure that (former) refugees, migrants and newcomers are made welcome, are cared for, and are supported in the region. The Nelson Tasman Settlement Forum does so by sharing information and issues and progressing strategic goals through advocacy and action.



## Refugee Alliance in Nelson



Steering Group members from The Refugee Alliance [Dr. Zhiyan Basharati (Chair of Refugee Research Centre), Dr. Khurram Malik (Director of HOPE Worldwide-Pakistan), Gatluak Chuol (Settlement Services Manager at Asylum Seekers Support Trust), Rahmat Azimi (CEO of NZ National Refugee Youth Council)] visited Nelson to talk to

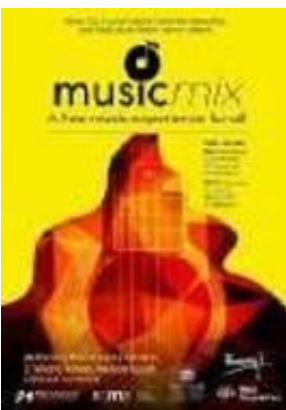
former refugees about their views on how the government could improve settlement outcomes for refugees. The role of the Refugee Alliance is to strengthen the collaboration between NGOs, community groups and their allies to collectively advocate for high level policy and strategy changes at a government level.

## Meeting with the Equal Employment Opportunities Commissioner

We were all very honoured to meet with the EEO Commissioner Saunoamaali'i Karanina Sumeo, and Human Rights Advisor Nid Satjipanon from New Zealand Human Rights Commission in April. It was a great kōrero and we were happy to give some input into the policies for the betterment of all people in the workforce: Work for Equal Employment Opportunities, Women's rights, and work exploitation/slavery, to name a few.



## Music Mix



This was an opportunity for Nelsonians who enjoy music but have never had an opportunity to give it a go, to do just that. Our diverse community enjoyed the 3x one-hour eclectic music encounters which were held at Victory Community Centre and the project was a collaboration between NCC, NCMA, and MNT.

## Migrant and Former Refugee Community Navigator Norma Sequera

MNT is proud to continue to co-govern this important role with Victory Community Centre and English Language Partners. Norma's work is invaluable, and we are grateful for her incredibly heart for communities and her professionalism.

# Multicultural Youth Nelson Tasman ('Mynties') Impact Report



MYNTies meet fortnightly at the Multicultural Nelson Tasman office to talk about plans for projects and events.

## "That's MYNT" Radio show

'That's MYNT!' is a radio show by the Multicultural Youth Nelson Tasman. They started this show in October 2020 and since, want to entertain the community with a fun mix of interviews, music and chat. The show is broadcast every Sunday between 7 pm and 8 pm on Fresh FM- 104.8 (Nelson-Tasman)/ 107.2 (Nelson CBD)/ 88.9 (Blenheim)/ 95.0 (Eastern Golden Bay) or visit [freshfm.net](http://freshfm.net) to listen to their Multicultural show.



## Outdoor Paddle Boarding session

MYNTies were super excited to join the paddle boarding session by Moana Paddle Nelson in March 2022 as part of a group bonding activity.

## Volunteering for Multicultural Football Tournament

The youth group volunteered at the Multicultural Football Tournament (March 2022), which went ahead, despite the Tasman Asian Night Food Fair and the Multicultural Festival being cancelled due to Omicron.

## Recruitment Video by MYNT

One of the main projects of the MYNTies for the year was to recruit more members to the group. The planning, script, recording and even editing of the video were all done by the members.

## Multicultural Youth Movie Night for "Youth Week"

A Movie Night was organised by MYNTies for Youth Week 2022 in May. There was a great turnout with some 60 young people coming together to watch Spider-Man: Homecoming. Intermission provided an opportunity for activities, games and conversation.





## Modelling for “IndoNelson Batik Exhibition”

In June the MYNTies showed off their modelling skills at the Tuku22 IndoNelson event. They were dressed in a variety of batik clothing that was flown in from Indonesia, especially for the event. 2022.

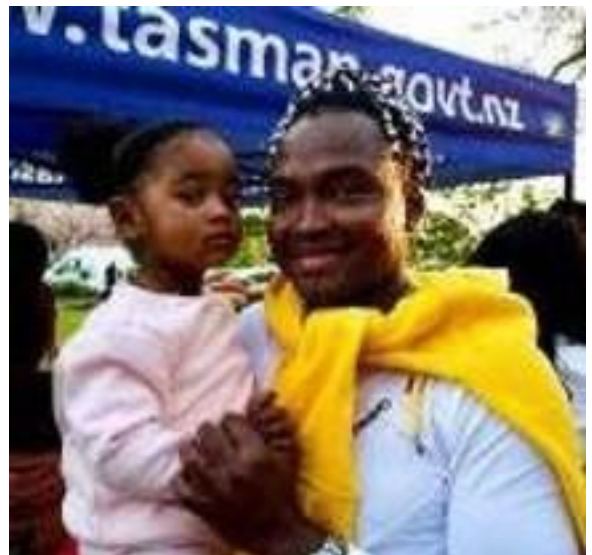


## Lantern-making workshops for Matariki

MYNTies connected with Victory Primary School to do some lantern-making sessions for tamariki in July 2022. These lanterns were used for the hikoi at the Matariki celebration which was held at the Victory Community Centre later that week.

## MYNT Outdoor Movie in Richmond

MYNTies organised an outdoor movie night in Washbourn Gardens in partnership with Tasman District Council in October 2022. In keeping with the theme of the Colombian-based movie Encanto that was shown, there were Latin-American food carts, zumba, cumbia, games and a lot of fun activities. The turnout was huge and they were so glad it brought many in the community together.



## “Random Acts of Kindness Day” by MYNT



The youth group celebrated "Random Acts of Kindness Day" with the residents of Coastal View Retirement Village and spent some quality time with them in September 2022. They brought some food to share with the residents and also enjoyed doing some interactive games. Girls from the Nelson Malayalee Community did some lovely dance performances. MYNTies also shared some greeting cards written in their own words for the residents with beautiful messages in them.

## Spirited Conversations

MYNTies were invited to give a talk in October for Spirited Conversations at Yaza Café Nelson. They talked about their mission to empower young people - sharing their passion for achieving acceptance for all, and unity in diversity. If you'd like to hear their session, you can tune into the Spirited Conversations podcast via the Fresh FM site.



## Nelson Arts Festival 2023

The youth group also took part in the Nelson Arts Festival by exhibiting some painted masks which represented their countries and also by providing some information about the youth group at the Nelson Provincial Museum.

## Multicultural New Zealand Youth Conference

MYNT Chair Nikita Puri got the opportunity to represent the group at Multicultural New Zealand (MNZ) Youth Conference in December 2022 in Wellington. Nikita mentioned that she was honoured to visit Kāpiti Island, welcomed with a Whakatau, hosted by mana whenua Ngāti Toa Rangatira. She had the opportunity to join MNZ strategic planning sessions and educational workshops while also enjoying a bonfire and some geo-caching exercises.



## Group bonding and final catch up

MYNTies went to the Action Centre in Richmond and played bowling and enjoyed some dinner together which was their final catch-up for the year. They discussed the year in review and brainstormed some project ideas for 2023 with the hope to deliver more exciting projects to make the youth group more welcoming and inclusive to all young people in Nelson.





## Events Held By our Communities and Partners



### **IndoNelson and Tuku22 Heritage Months Events Celebrating Indonesia**

As a part of Tuku22 Whakatū Heritage Months, the IndoNelson community successfully presented two fabulous events that showcased aspects of Indonesia's rich and diverse cultures. There was an amazing gamelan experience, batik exhibition and a traditional hands-on batik workshop during the day, as well as an evening event to "explore palate and senses" through a traditional Indonesian dining and cultural experience - "Tumpengan" with mesmerizing dances, songs and music. The event was attended by dignitaries from the Indonesian Embassy here in NZ, as well as local government and central government representatives. It was a full house with people being turned away at the door. This was a night to remember.

### **Ukrainian Peace Vigil**

A peace vigil was held at the Nelson Cathedral and attended by many. MNT has helped the Ukrainian community form Tautoko Ukraine Charitable Trust in the effort to raise funds for humanitarian aid which became an official registered charity on 17 July 2022.

### **EID with Nelson Whakatū Muslim Association**

Muslims all over New Zealand came together last month to celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr after a whole month of fasting during the daylight hours. Nelson-Whakatū Muslim Association celebrated Eid at Saxton Oval with a gathering of whanau and friends from the wider community. Thanks to NWMA for inviting Multicultural Nelson Tasman to celebrate Eid al-Fitr with their Muslim brothers and sisters, it was such a lovely day.



## Pakistan Independence Day Celebration

The growing Pakistani Community in Nelson celebrated Pakistan's Independence Day for the first time in Nelson on 5th of June. The event, organised by Sanam Mukhtar, the Regional Head of the Pakistan Association of New Zealand in Nelson, was a first for the community as they marked their presence here and moved to raise



the profile of their country and culture. It also follows the celebration of 75 years of independence for Pakistan. Everyone enjoyed the food, speeches, and beautiful performances. We hope to see many such events happening in Nelson as we encourage 'Unity in diversity' and we offer a warm welcome from Multicultural Nelson Tasman to our newest resettled refugees from the Ahmadiyya community.



## Latin America and Spain Film Festival 2022

True to their promise from their remotely-delivered speech back in 2021, the Peruvian Embassy representatives turned up in-person to the opening night of the Latin America and Spain Film Festival, with double the amount of delicious pisco sours in hand. Around 100 people came to the opening, which was held at Putangitangi Greenmeadows Centre, and watched the Peruvian film "Mataindios".

The completely free film festival continued in September and October and showcased a range of contemporary cinematographic productions from Latin America and Spain. It is a non-profit event which aims to bring together Latin America, Spain and other New Zealand communities through the big screen. Multicultural Nelson Tasman together with Nelsonson Dance & Entertainment, were proud to be supporting this event again for 2022, with funding from Nelson City Council (NRDA).



## China Week

Staff and some of the MNT board members met with Race Relations Commissioner Meng Foon, at the launch of China week.





## Colombian Integration and Cultural Expression

Nelson Colombian Community Trust organised their "Colombian Integration and Cultural Expression" event on 24th of September at the Victory Square. There was face-painting for kids, a sneak preview of the Colombian float for the upcoming Santa Parade, catchy cumbia tunes from Transandinos, traditional dance displays and delicious empanadas and arepas.



## Solita Pa' Todos – Integration Event from Latin American Community

The Aotearoa Latin American Community (ALAC) Nelson Branch organised an integration event for the Latin American community in September at the Victory Community Centre. It was a hugely fun night with music, dance, and food (soup for all), and also a chance to share information about the services that ALAC offers to the community in Nelson.





## Garba Dance Night for Navarati

It was a pleasure to be invited to the Garba dance night organised for the Navaratri Festival by the Indian (Gujarati) Community in Nelson. What a wonderful night of dancing, festivities, and food!



## Dashain 2022 with Nelson's Nepalese Community

The most important Hindu festival for those from Nepal, Dashain is a time for family reunions, the exchange of gifts and blessings, and elaborate pujas.

Our Nepalese Community in Nelson celebrated Dashain on the 8th of October, at a beautifully organised event which was held at old St John's Hall in Hardy Street.





## Diwali 2022

One of the most popular Hindu festivals, Diwali, was very well-celebrated in Nelson last year.

The Fijian-Indian community who are part of Nelson Sanatan Ramayan Mandli held their event on October 15th at the Trafalgar Hall. It was a huge success and their first time pulling together an event like this for their community.

Diwali was also celebrated with the wider Indian and local community at a public event held at Founder's Park on October 16th. There was a wide range of delicious food on offer, performances, music and a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends.



## Tautoko Ukraine Art Auction

An art auction was organised to raise funds for humanitarian aid in Ukraine; supported by Nelson Centre of Musical Arts, John Walker Auctions, Multicultural Nelson Tasman and Nelson City Council. The Tautoko Ukraine Group would like to express their gratitude to all volunteers and supporters and sponsors involved in the Support Ukraine Charitable Auction event which was held on October 6th at the Nelson Centre of Musical Arts. They raised nearly \$8000 for humanitarian efforts in Ukraine, which was an amazing result.





## Knock Film Screening

The Bhutanese community of Nelson proudly screened their new Nepali short film "Knock" in early December at the Suter Theatre.

More than 100 people turned out for the Nelson premiere of the film, which gives important messages about issues facing the community – such as pressures facing youth and trying to balance social and cultural issues. Community leader Bhoj Subba said feedback had been excellent and people were hoping more screenings would be offered in the future.

## Talking about Identity and Belonging in Aotearoa...

Professor James Liu from Massey University visited Nelson in November and presented a wonderful session for Nelson City Council staff and other interested members of the public on the topic of "Navigating Identity and Belonging in Aotearoa New Zealand". If you missed his session at the Suter Theatre, you can find a recording on YouTube.



The Multicultural Nelson Tasman Board wishes to express our most sincere gratitude to our two amazing staff, Anna Fyfe and Ramiesha Perera, who go above and beyond what appears to be humanly impossible. They are both treasures and they truly have the 'pulse' on the people. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

*"Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and test of our civilisation".*

Mahatma Gandhi



**Many thanks to our sponsors:**







## Murihiku Southland District Multicultural Council

This past year has been one of struggle and sadness for Murihiku Southland District Multicultural Council and their president, Shelly Ballantine. The Multicultural New Zealand office and the Federation Executive offer condolences to Shelly for the loss of her husband, Stephen, and to the wider MSDMC whānau for the passing of Silvia Abdul Jabbar of the Murihiku Islamic Trust. We also commend Shelly for remaining a committed community advocate throughout these difficult times.

*Whāngai i tō tāua tuahine, hei tangi i a tāua.*

### MSDMC Events and Activities 2022-2023

#### Tribute Event - September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Organisation and coordination of a tribute event for the late Silvia Abdul Jabbar, an active and beloved member of our council and stalwart of the Murihiku Islamic Trust.

#### Muslim Community Gardening - November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

This project is a yearly collaboration between the late Silvia Abdul Jabbar and Shelly Ballantine of MSDMC. The event promoted environmental, agricultural and zero waste practice teaching children to be resilience by recycled plastics, cups for growing greens.



## Islamic Awareness Day – November 27th, 2022

This event took place at the Invercargill Public Library and featured an educational presentation about the Truth of Islam "Islam and The World". People were encouraged to come along and ask questions, watch a demonstration on how to wear Hijab, join in on children's activities, or just drop by to say hello.

## Philippine Independence Day Event – June 17th, 2023

Hosted by the Southland Filipino Society.

## International Day of Yoga – June 19th, 2023

Hosted by Indian Community in Southland (ICS). Over 80 people attended this event held at Hansen Hall in Southern Institute of Technology.

## Community Vaccine Campaign Uptake Event – June 29th, 2023

Held at the Wat Buddha Samakhee Buddhist Temple in Invercargill, this was a family friendly, free entry event with refreshments provided. Supported by MNZ and attended by President Pancha Narayanan, Treasurer and National Campaign Coordinator Prem Singh, and MNZ Head of Operations Gurtej Singh.

**Get up to date on your  
vaccinations!**



**Everyone welcome!**

**Walk-in vaccinations,  
no appointment  
necessary.**

**Saturday 29 July, 11am - 3pm**

Wat Buddha Samakhee Buddhist Temple,  
829 North Rd, Invercargill

### **Free vaccinations against:**

- COVID-19 Pfizer for ages 5+
- COVID-19 Novavax for ages 12+
- Influenza for ages 6 months+

**\*\*Eligibility criteria varies by  
vaccine, come and have a  
chat about what  
vaccinations you need.**



**Te Whatu Ora**  
Health New Zealand





## Marlborough Multicultural Centre

The following pages provide a glimpse into the transformative journey our organisation embarked upon from August 2022 to 2023. Amidst the winds of change, the heart and purpose of MMC have grown even stronger. Our unwavering commitment to fostering cultural integration in Blenheim and being a voice for the voiceless migrants has remained at the core of everything we do.

In the twilight of 2022, a new Board of Directors ushered in a pivotal moment for us, prompting a thoughtful reassessment and strategic alignment. As we turned this page, the narratives within this report are elegantly organized to mirror the pillars that shape our actions, initiatives, and programs.

From promoting unity to amplifying unheard voices, this report encapsulates our journey of empowerment, celebration, and advocacy. It's a testament to the shared stories that define us and the diverse cultures that enrich Marlborough.

### Integrating Cultures

In the event called "Fun Dance," which took place from July to December 2022, a vibrant fusion of cultures converged with the rhythms of Merengue, Salsa, and Bachata. This engaging and enriching activity brought together children, teenagers, and adults alike, creating a diverse and dynamic community of participants. Every Friday in the second half of 2022, people of all ages dived into the awesome world of Latin American dance.

Other activities that promoted and exploited the multiculturalism in Blenheim included, the cooking sessions with Tetra, where we learnt the healthy ways of Cambodian cuisine. A trip to the Wairau Bar was another example of how to integrate cultures through the passing of the stories of the early migrants that arrived in NZ, the trip ended with a visit to the museum. A perfect way to end a day of history and incredible stories. The multicultural evening at Café Delicias united Marlburian families and various cultures that contribute to the vibrant tapestry of Blenheim. Attendees showcased a wide array of talents, including dancing, performing, cooking, and much more.

The year 2023 saw the birth of Folklore Workshops. Interactive sessions that focus on various aspects of Latin America traditional culture, and heritage. These workshops aim to preserve, celebrate, and educate participants about the folklore and traditional practices of a particular country or community through dances and music.

The Kathak workshops where a young Indian lady is passing on the values and movements of this dance are another platform for cultural exchange.

Language Weeks Celebration: In 2023 we initiated the celebration of language weeks in accordance with the New Zealand calendar. During our morning tea sessions, we invite individuals from different ethnic groups to share their language and culture. They teach us about their language and share cultural aspects related to language. We have celebrated various languages during our Wednesday Morning tea. NZ sign language, Samoan language week, However, our attempt to celebrate Cook Islands language was hindered by the unavailability of attendees due to only two families being present in Blenheim.

### Community Capacity Building, Leadership, and Engagement

Empowering Migrants in the Business Sector: We have established a collaboration with Business Trust Marlborough to provide expertise and knowledge about New Zealand business practices to our clients. Brian offers personalised assistance to each client and connects them with relevant business contacts.

Two sessions have already been conducted, benefiting over 15 clients, and there is another cohort planned for the upcoming months. Feedback from the participants, representing various nationalities such as Kiwi, Chilean, Indian, Colombian, Argentinian, Zimbabwean, Malaysian, Hungarian, Korean, British, and Catalan, indicates how valuable their meetings with Brian have been. They highlight how he has consistently guided their business projects, connected them with business mentors, and motivated them to enhance their businesses and plans.

Empowering migrant women: Basic Car Mechanics sessions. In our vibrant community of female migrants, another exciting initiative took flight - It all began when a young Indian lady stepped forward, brimming with generosity and a desire to share her knowledge. She approached us with the idea of conducting sessions to teach women the fundamentals of their cars, empowering them to handle basic car issues with confidence. Two sessions with a total of 14 migrant women proved to be a resounding success, with participants expressing appreciation and a keen interest in delving deeper into such practical knowledge. This initiative served as a shining example of migrants coming together to uplift and empower one another within our close-knit community. This was also a great opportunity to promote the integration of cultures through welcoming the Rohingya women who have newly arrived in our community.

### **Highlighting and Endorsing the Diverse Cultures Residing in Marlborough**

The 2023 Marlborough Multicultural Festival stands out as the paramount event demonstrating the significance of this endeavour for MMC. A remarkable turnout gathered to celebrate and embrace the vibrant cultures that collectively shape Marlborough. The festival encompassed a myriad of cultures, each enthusiastically joining our invitation. It was a captivating day filled with an array of colours, music, talents, diverse accents, and resounding support from Blenheim's families. Throughout 2023, MMC has been actively engaged in pivotal cultural events that foster integration and community bonding. Our presence not only marked moments like the Muslim Eid Mubarak celebration, Samoan Independence Day, Colombian Independence Day, the Dutch Orange Week and Unity Week but also underscored our resolute commitment to championing the diverse ethnic groups within our region.

### **Weekly Morning Tea**

Our morning teas are often the starting point for newcomers to Marlborough, providing friendship, support, advocacy, and navigation to relevant agencies, to support people's settlement process as well as an opportunity to practise English.



### **La Hora del Cuento**

La Hora del Cuento keeps gaining popularity, and the new Library has played a significant role in drawing English-speaking kids to participate in this initiative as well!



### **Baile Entretenido – Fun Dance**

In "Fun Dance," to the rhythm of Merengue, Salsa, and Bachata, many cultures integrated with Latin America. Throughout the second semester of 2022.







# Making Marlborough

The Migrant Story



A new documentary film by Paul Davidson and Barbara Gibb

At the premiere of the Making Marlborough documentary, an incredible collection of stories highlighting the contributions of the migrants who have helped build Marlborough.



Workshop by MNZ to restructure the MMC strategic plan

Cultures getting together through an art workshop



Celebrating Chinese Language Week with Chinese Calligraphy





**Cultures coming together to learn cooking with Tetra**

**The new Board of Directors at Marlborough Multicultural Centre**



**Multicultural Evening**

**Basic Car Mechanics**







**Unity Week**

**Frida Kahlo Art Workshop**



**Eid Celebration with the Muslim Community**

**Bus Trip to the Wairau**





## Latin America Folklore Dances and Music Workshops



## Orange Madness Dutch Community



## Kathak Dances Workshops



## Let's Talk About Business



## Songkran Festival Thai New Year Celebration





## International Language Week

International Language Week 2023 had 13 languages participating in a market-style display at Connect Church Hall, engaging over 60 attendees.



## Samoan Language Week

The Samoans brought delight to attendees during this morning tea through their language, dances, food, and rich history.

## Kiribati Language Week

The Kiribati language was joyfully celebrated through songs, lessons on their alphabet, and helpful phrases.





## Earth Day Celebration



## Volunteer Week Celebration



## Multicultural Parade





## Marlborough Multicultural Festival 2023

A kaleidoscope of colours, sounds, sights, and aromas transformed Pollard Park on Saturday, 04 March 2023 at the Marlborough Multicultural Festival hosted by the Marlborough Multicultural Centre.

Thousands of people joined us to celebrate our rich and diverse community. We enjoyed delicious ethnic foods, lovely typical dances and immersed into the rich variety of cultures that call Marlborough Home.





## Hutt **Multicultural** Council Inc.

### **Introduction**

Hutt Multicultural Council Inc. (HMC) has been working to promote ethnic diversity and inclusiveness in Lower Hutt since 1987.

HMC's Strategic Plan includes:

**Value** - Respect, Service, Diversity, Collaboration and Courage

**Vision** - Promoting and Celebrating Cultural and Ethnic Diversity

**Mission** - Leadership and Advocacy of Racial Harmony

**Purpose** - Advocacy, Promote & Support, Celebrate, Connect & Collaborate

This performance report is structured around the actions identified under the four purposes. The HMC Executive Committee, members, whanau, friends, supporters, and volunteers all contributed to achieve the results briefly described below.

### **Advocacy on Racial Harmony**

Members attended huis, making submissions, and responding to racial harmony related actions from other organisations, both government and non-government organisations to present HMC views, concerns, and feedback.

HMC members regularly attended stakeholder meetings organised by the Ministry for Ethnic Communities and the Hutt Valley Refugee & Migrants Stakeholders Forums.

Members and volunteers also attended the Race Unity Speech Awards organised by Bahai Society and New Zealand Police at the Police National H/Q 1st May 2023. We were also delighted to join the 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Race Unity Speech Awards at Parliament hosted by The Honourable Ginny Andersen & The Honourable Priyanka Radhakrishnan.

We attended & supported Rishi Sharma, on his presidency & launch of the Bhartiya Samaj Wellington-Manawatu Charitable Trust on 24th Feb 2023 at the High Commission of India, Wellington.

HMC also supported & sponsored the Hindu Council of NZ on its 25th Anniversary Marae stay event on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023. This also included a rangoli & mehndi workshop held at the War Memorial Library.



HMC's president attended a gala dinner by the Nepalese Culture & Tourism Promotion Forum, NZ. We celebrated the 70th Anniversary Everest Day with the Nepalese Soc of Wellington, 31st May 2023 at Parliament. HMC's president was also privileged to attend a lunch at the home of Dr Ramil Adhikari, President of NCTPF NZ with special guest, the former Prime Minister of Nepal.



We had also invited Hong Yuan from the Asian Family Services to speak at our monthly meeting & Laura Xiao to speak about Chinese heritage & language. We regularly attended the monthly online meetings of Multicultural New Zealand (MNZ) - Regional Multicultural Councils (RMCs) and supported the initiatives taken by MNZ including the National Action Plan Against Racism.

### **Bridging Cultures Hui, Wharewaka, Sat 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

Some of our members attended this hui on behalf of HMC and other organizations they work for. Organized by the Inclusive Aotearoa Collective Tahono and Porirua Multicultural Council. Attendees included students, staff of government groups, community groups and various others. It was a very interesting mix of people sharing their views and experiences in Aotearoa. Sadly, I had to leave early to attend the tangi of Kara Puketapu.

### **MNZ Immigration Conference, Auckland 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

HMC president attended this. It was a wonderful weekend meeting and connecting with the different whanau from various RMCs. Other than listening to some of the inspiring guest speakers, the small group discussions provided a deeper insight into the lives & experiences of a wide range of participants. The theme was Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Aotearoa towards 2040.

## **Promote Multicultural Events**

HMC organises its own events and supports other organisations to host events targeting the multicultural communities.

### **Matariki**

Together as a Wellington RMC Collective, the four multicultural councils celebrated Matariki at the Johnsonville Community Hall on Wednesday 12 July 2023. There were over 100 people. There were speeches about Matariki and some cultural performances. The evening finished with fried rice and pizzas!

HMCs president also attended a Matariki event held by the Hiyas NZ Soc & the Dames of Rizal, both Filipino organizations. This was also attended by Greg O'Connor, MP.

### **Waitangi Day Commemoration**

This year we supported & sponsored the HCNZ with their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary marae stay at Te Kākanō o Te Aroha Marae in Moera on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2023. We shared some kai together before moving on to the War Memorial Library where there were Rangoli & mehndi workshops.

## Spring Multifest 2023



HMC's popular annual multicultural event is currently being planned for 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023 to be held at the St James Anglican Church in Lower Hutt. It will involve cultural performances from many different ethnic communities. There will also be information stalls and food stalls. This could be followed immediately after by a celebration by the Hindu Council NZ.

## Lower Hutt Multicultural 5-a-side Football Tournament

This tournament was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023 at the Hutt Recreation Ground for the eighth year in a row. It was organized in conjunction with Sportzone. Teams from different ethnic backgrounds participated. A celebrity game between a small team from the Hutt City Council and a well-supported Wellington Diplomatic Corps team was played. For a third year running the Diplomatic Corp won the trophy!

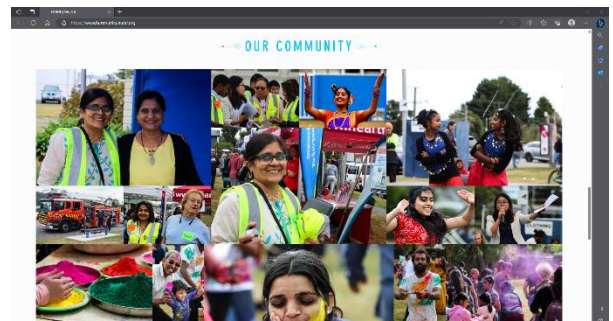


## Anzac Day Commemoration

HMC was invited by the council to lay a wreath at the Hutt Cenotaph. Three of the executive members attended and a note of thanks to Anita Mansell for arranging the flowers.

## Websites/Logo/Banner

HMC is currently reviewing its website - [www.huttmulticultural.org](http://www.huttmulticultural.org) A meeting was held between Gurtej at the MNZ office and HMC's president to look at the Flightdec hosted platform. Once the HMC site is updated, a visit will be arranged for the web team to watch a demo by Gurtej.







## Citizenship Ceremony

HMC members have been taking turns representing us at the Hutt City Citizenship ceremonies. Usually, 2 will go up on stage with the official party. Feedback from the members have been wonderful experiences watching the new citizens in front and then congratulating them as they go on stage to receive their certificates.

## Grow Membership

This year we have been fortunate to meet a lot of different people involved with various community groups and even government groups. Quite a few have been attending our meetings and also helping us with various tasks. Some have also signed up as new members.

## Celebrate

Celebrate the achievements of individuals and organisations related to ethnic and race relations.



## Awards

Last year Hutt Multicultural Council Inc. was the Supreme Winner and Winner of the Arts and Cultural Affairs category of the Wellington Airport Regional Community Award for Hutt City. It then won the same category for the Wellington Region.

This year we have again been nominated for an award for Hutt City.



## Welcoming Communities Coordinator

We celebrate the Hutt City Council achieving Welcoming Communities status and the engagement of a new coordinator Batool Arif who started on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023. We look forward to working with her and the council.



## Diwali

HMC members attended various Diwali celebrations at Parliament, the Indian High Commission and at the NZ Police Headquarters. This is to show our support for our Indian community.

## Connect and Collaborate

HMC keeps connecting and collaborating with stakeholders (both organisations and individuals) to achieve HMC purposes. Various members involved with other community groups have been able to make new connections with fellow members. Some highlights of the year are as follows:

**Hutt City Council** has been a funder and supporter to HMC since its establishment. Last year, HMC started collaboration with the newly established Connecting Communities team at HCC. Barry Gall from HCC has been attending our meetings and also helping us with the meeting venue and online platform. HMC's president was part of the interview panel for the new Welcoming Communities Coordinator. We view this as an important development and look forward to continuing our collaboration and also working with the new coordinator.

HMC members were invited to an HCC Long-Term Plan (2021-2031) Pre-engagement hui on behalf of Ethnic migrants and former refugee communities. This was held on Monday 24 July 2023 at the ELP venue.

## Diplomatic Corp

With the departure of Gary Domingo, Phillipine's previous Ambassador and head of the Diplomatic Corp, HMC has established relationships with the Wellington Diplomatic Corps via Edgardo V López, ambassador of Cuba. Edgardo organized the team for the football game.

## Opening Ceremony of the Pucará Bull Ambassador of the Peruvian Andes Itinerant Exhibition

HMC president was invited to this opening by the Peruvian ambassador. Learnt about the history and the different designs of these bulls.

## New Zealand Police

John Zhu, Ethnic Liaison Officer, attends HMC's monthly meetings. It is good to have him present and some of the members have been able to make connections with him. The Wellington RMC Collective met with the Ethnic Liaison team at the Police Headquarters on 15th June 2023.



## NZ Health Strategy Engagements with Ethnic Communities,

HMC members attended this engagement by MEC on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March at the Wharewaka with an invitation through Dennis Maang. This was to create a framework for achieving Pae Ora – healthy futures for all New Zealanders.

## Rotary Hutt City

A member from Rotary Hutt City has been showing an interest in HMC's work and is kept updated with all our events and meetings. HMC plans to meet and make a presentation to Rotary Hutt City in the near future.



## St James Anglican Church

HMC president Winsome Lam and past president Anita Mansell met with the vicar, Annette Cater. We received a tour of the premises and decided it was a good venue for our Spring Multifest. St James has also confirmed that they will sponsor the event by providing the venue.

## Kara Puketapu tangi

The MNZ president decided that the Wellington RMC Collective should attend this together. A koha was given by each RMC to go towards kai for the marae to use. This group included Ginny Andersen as Minister for Police, Rakesh Naidoo and a small contingent of army personnel.



## Colombian Independence Day Celebration

Some HMC members attended and supported this event on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> of July at Ngāti Toa Domain Hall, Porirua. Our member Luis Perez was involved with organizing the event.

## Acknowledgement

The Executive Committee of Hutt Multicultural Council Inc. listed below acknowledges the support received from the Hutt City Council to various events and activities HMC organised through-out the year.

Hutt Multicultural Council also extends sincere thanks to Multicultural New Zealand, Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Human Rights Commission, Hindu Council of New Zealand, and Best NZ Football Company.

Funding agencies - COGS, Ministry of Ethnic Communities, Ethnic Communities Development Fund and some smaller sponsors such as Specsavers, Hutt Events Centre and Motel55 played a significant role in our funding success during this reporting year.

We greatly appreciate the continued support of our patron John Terris and Honorary Solicitor Karun Lakshman and all Executives, Committee members and volunteers. Huge thanks to all members and volunteers who contribute their time & talents to assist HMC.

### Hutt Multicultural Council Executive Committee 2022-23

Winsome Lam	President
Christine Richardson	Vice President
Zara Zafar	Secretary
Prachee Gokhale	Treasurer
Tribhuvan Shrestha	Immediate Past President
Anita Mansell	Executive Committee Member (past president)
Tui Lewis	Executive Committee Member
Arun Bhambhra	Executive Committee Member
Julian Paton	Executive Committee Member
Prabha Ravi	Executive Committee Member



## Multicultural Association Hawke’s Bay Te Kahui Konarau

### Asians in the Bay

A prestigious and unique celebration in Hawke’s Bay.

Beginning in 2012 these awards were designed to showcase the significant contribution and value the Asian community make to the enrichment of the general community of Hawke’s Bay across all sectors of business and trade, education, horticulture, health, and youth enterprise.

On 1<sup>st</sup> August this awards ceremony (run by the Multicultural Association Hawke’s Bay) was attended by many leaders from the Hawkes Bay community, and representatives from many of the Bay’s ethnic communities.

There was singing, dancing, good food, speeches, and plenty of opportunity to catch up with those from different communities and cultures.

Dr Pushpa Wood ONZM [Director of Financial education and Research Centre] - gave an inspiring, memorable, and entertaining keynote speech, directing attention to matters of faith, interfaith and matters of money.







Photo Credits George Kutty

### Matariki Potluck

A special get together was held to celebrate the new year. We gathered as a multicultural family and shared stories of the meaning of Matariki, listened to songs, the children made stars, we ate candy floss (all of us!!) and shared Kai and fellowship. “We should do this more often”.



## Violence Prevention Workshops

MCAHB participated in the following workshop and through our community connector are connected into the SAMS network in Hawke's Bay. Doing what we can.

**Have your say!**

**Workshops on preventing family violence and sexual violence in ethnic communities**

The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) would like to invite you to attend an in-person workshop with us in your region, to discuss the prevention of family and sexual violence in ethnic communities.

We want to hear from ethnic communities, organisations and providers on the unique challenges and barriers they face and the solutions that could work for them. The workshops aim to add to the limited understanding of family and sexual violence experienced by ethnic communities across Aotearoa.

**Workshops will be held as listed below:**

Location	Day/Date	Time
Christchurch	Monday 3 July	3pm-7pm
Wellington	Wednesday 5 July	2pm-7pm
Palmerston North	Thursday 6 July	2pm-7pm
Invercargill	Saturday 8 July	10am-3pm
Dunedin	Sunday 9 July	10am-3pm
Napier	Tuesday 11 July	2pm-7pm
Hamilton	Wednesday 13 July	2pm-7pm
Rotorua	Thursday 13 July	2pm-7pm
Auckland	Monday 17 July	2pm-7pm
	Tuesday 18 July	2pm-7pm

Register for a workshop in your city at:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ethnic-communities-violence-prevention-2284728>  
 or email MSD at [ecvp@msd.govt.nz](mailto:ecvp@msd.govt.nz) for more information.

**BOLLYWOOD NIGHT**

13 **BOLLYWOOD STARS**

Join us for a **Live Concert**

celebrating **Everyday Solidarities**

Friday, July 7th, 2023  
 From 7:00 - 9:30PM  
 MTC Hawke's Bay  
 2 Tekepaan Street, Napier, 4108

**BOOK NOW** YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE!

**SCAN ME**

## Bollywood Night

MCAHB was happy to be a part of Pakistan & Friends Bollywood Night.

## DiverCity Day – Napier

Organised by Hawkes Bay Settlement Forum.

MCAHB is part of the Hawkes Bay Settlement Forum, were part of the DiverCity Day organizing committee, and had a stall at this event. DiverCity day is an international cultures day with food, entertainment and stalls connecting the community to providers.



**CELEBRATING CULTURAL DIVERCITY**

Come together to enjoy food from all corners of the globe, stalls, cultural performances and fun activities at this free family event!

**11am - 3pm, Saturday 17 June\* 2023**  
 Napier Soundshell, Marine Parade

*\*Postponed to 24 June if wet*

To find out more visit [www.napiercitycouncil.govt.nz](https://www.napiercitycouncil.govt.nz)

ORGANISED BY THE HAWKE'S BAY SETTLEMENT FORUM



## Fiji Gimit Remembrance Evening

Members of MCAHB attended this event organized by the Fijian Indian Community to learn about the Gimit History of Fiji.

Multicultural Association Hawkes Bay Inc - Te Kahui Konarau  
10 June

14 MAY 1879  
WHEN IT ALL STARTED

Hawkes Bay Fiji Indian Community and Fiji Gimit Foundation  
NZ present

**FIJI GIRMIT REMEMBRANCE EVENING - 2023**

Venue: Frimley School, Frimley Road - Hastings  
Date: 10th June 2023  
Time: 5.30pm onwards

Theme: *Remembering our past, acknowledging our present and looking forward to our future*

A night of commemoration with cultural music, dance, drama and display

**Important information:**

- Dress code: gimit era (prizes for best dressed male, female, boy and girl)
- There will be competitions and quizzes before and on the day. Winners will be receiving some really awesome prizes.
- Snacks, food and tea will be on sale. Please bring cash.
- Please bring a gold coin for entry

Citizens Advice Bureau Napier and Multicultural Association Hawkes Bay  
invite you to join!

**Women's Wellbeing Course.**  
*An opportunity for women of all cultures to fully realise their potential in New Zealand  
(2.00-hour session for 8 weeks)*

**When:** On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May and every Monday for 8 weeks  
**Time:** 9.30-11.30am  
**Where:** MCA office, 1st Floor, 215 Railway Road, Hastings 4122  
**Cost:** FREE  
**Resources:** Bring pens/note paper we will provide the handbook.

You need to be able to commit to at least 6 sessions out of the 8 planned.  
We will be providing speakers and activities to fit in with what is relevant and useful to you.  
If you are unable to attend this course, we can put you on a waiting list for the next one.  
The intention of the course is to enable you to become more settled, more empowered, more resilient, and happier living in New Zealand.

The goal is that at the end of the course you will be able to say

- I remain strong in my culture
- I am learning to become a kiwi
- My family's needs are met
- I am part of a community network
  - I lead a balanced life
  - My voice is heard.

For further information and to book your place, contact:

Jenny Pearce, Manager T: 06 835 9664 E: [manager.napier@cab.org.nz](mailto:manager.napier@cab.org.nz)  
Sonaam Bhandari Community Connector T: 0775697955 F: [sonaam@communityconnector.org.nz](mailto:sonaam@communityconnector.org.nz)

## Women's Wellbeing Course

## ANZAC Day

Our freedom is bought with a price that others paid.

MCAHB members went to different services and laid a wreath at the civic service in Napier.



MCAHB with Kirsten Wise Mayor of Napier, with Akaal riders + with RSA President John Purcell QSM.

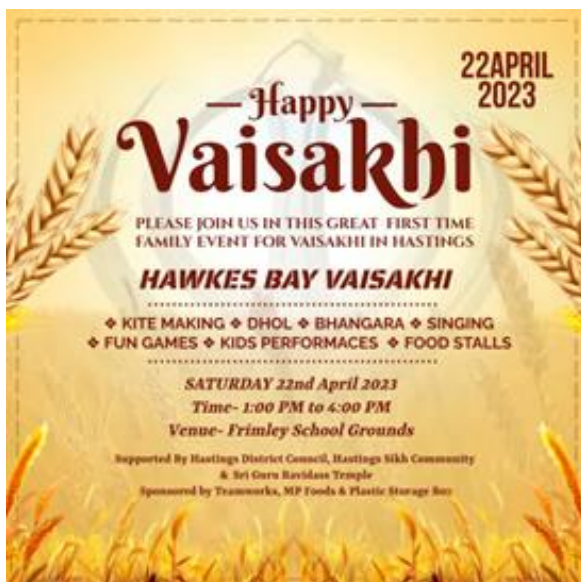
April 18th Representatives from Gurudwara Sahib Hastings, Gurudwara Ravidass, Kamibay, MEC met at MCA offices with the Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan.



14 April 2023 MCA met with Peter Boshier Chief Ombudsman, George Konia (Kaumatua), and 4 other team members to raise awareness of the Ombudsman and to understand what type of matters they can help with.

### Nagar Kirtan

MCA took part in the Sikh parade Nagar Kirtan April 2023. An amazing event. And afterwards we celebrated with the Sri Lankan Community.



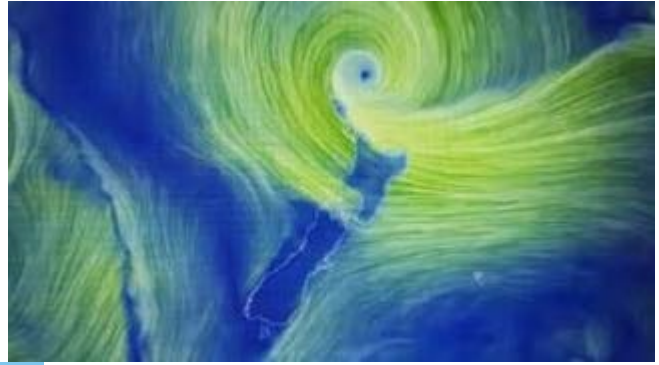
### Vaisakhi

MCA gave support to the Punjabi women running this Vaisakhi and had a table set up to assist people with the completion of Census forms.



## Cyclone Gabrielle

On the 14th of February Cyclone Gabrielle and accompanying floods turned our world upside down.



The multicultural communities excelled in reaching out. It was incredible how much food was cooked and shared. MCAHB worked to check on communities with members and get information out and fill whatever gaps we could find. This included producing and uploading videos with simple key messages in different languages, working with Civil Defence, sourcing, and organizing delivery of halal meat, helping with clean ups, message drops, helping in evacuation centres, providing food, helping aid reach those in real need, plus running our community connector services.

Several of us went on the Red Cross psychosocial First Aid Training.



**International Cultures Day** was one of the casualties of the floods. All organized and ready to go . . . Cancelled for the second year in a row. Very disappointing as this is a big event.



**Opening Hours**  
10am -1pm (Monday to Friday)

**We are here to help.**

- Census Support
- Civil Defence Payments
- Cyclone Relief
- Covid Support
- Connect you with Community Organisations
- Assist you in Completing Government forms.
- Help you navigate thru various government services and connect you with the right people.
- Connecting you with people or organisations who assist you with overall well-being issues.

Sonam Bhandari  
Phone- 0225697065  
Email- communityconnector@mcahb.org.nz  
Address - 1st Floor, 215 Railway Road, Hastings

**Commemorating Waitangi Day – Feb 6th**

MCAHB took part in the Hikoi, attended the service and listened to the speeches.







### Keralan Cultural Community Christmas

MCAHB board were invited to this wonderful event and had a speaking slot.





## Radio Spice

The launch of the Punjabi radio station Radio Spice at Gurudwara Sahib Hastings in December.



## The Philippine Community Christmas Party



The Philippine Community Christmas Party on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December. MCAHB President Heather Brown and Vice President Rizwana Latiff spoke, along with former Philippine honorary consul Mr Paulo Garica, who talked of the importance of having a will.





## Bangladesh Day

MCAHB joined in two ceremonies with the Bangladeshi community. One on the 16th of December 2022 when a flag was hoisted outside of the Hastings District Council commemorating “Victory Day” and one on the 26th March 2023 when there was an EID event and a concert showcasing traditional dance, plays etc, to commemorate Bangladesh Independence Day, We spoke at this enjoyable event.



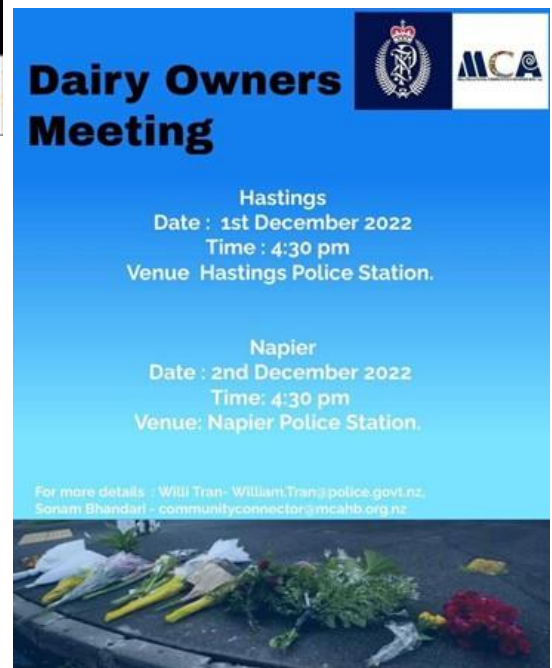
## Candlelight Vigil



MCAHB was invited to speak at the candlelight vigil held in memory of Janak Patel.

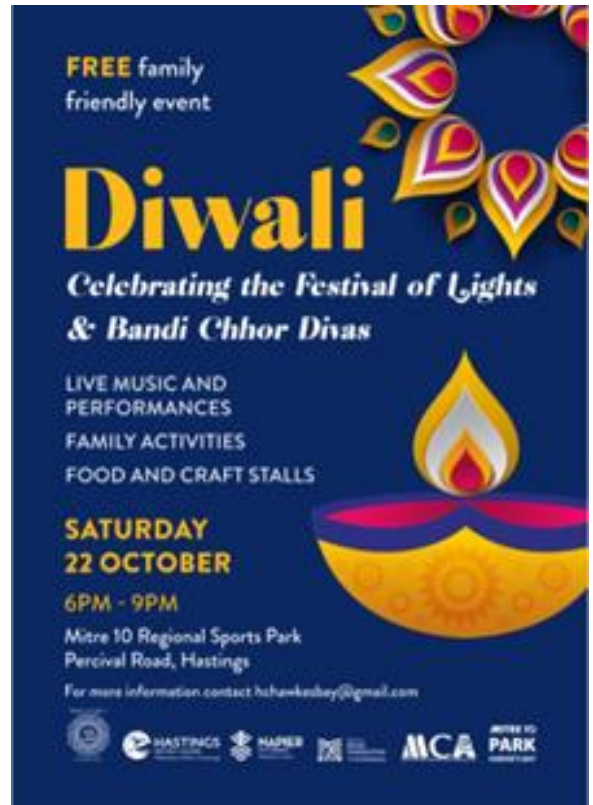
The news of Janek Patel’s homicide was unsettling for the entire community but also brought fear to retail workers, especially dairy business owners, across the country.

To support and assist Sergeant Willie Tran, District Ethnic Liaison Coordinator, worked together with MCA members and MCAHB’s community connector to organise meetings with dairy owners in Hastings and Napier. MCAHB attended both meetings and have subsequent meetings to follow through on ideas.



## Diwali

MCAHB joined members of the Sikh and Hindu Communities to give traditional sweets to our mayors and accepted an invitation to speak at the Rotary Club of Napier.



## Health

**Vaccination clinic for ethnic communities in a safe and supportive space.** Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand

Sunday 18 September  
11am - 3pm  
Gurdwara Guru Ravidass Sabha  
193 Havelock Road  
Hastings

**FREE HEALTH CHECKS**

**SPRING COLLECTIVE**  
JOIN THE PARTY!

**17TH SEPTEMBER, 2022**  
**11AM - 3:30PM**

**PERFORMERS**  
**BOUNCY CASTLES**  
**FOOD STALLS**  
**INFO TENTS**

Mitre 10 Park Hawke's Bay

**Free Flu vaccinations | COVID-19 (all doses)**  
**Paediatric Flu and COVID-19 | Free MMR**

No appointment necessary, just walk-in. Free morning tea and lunch will be provided.

Everyone is welcome, you will be supported by your community leaders and members as interpreters.

Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself, your family and your community.



ourhealthhb.nz





## International Peace Day

MCAHB worked alongside Liz Remmerswaal, President of World Beyond War, and other organisations on the Peace Pou project. Each pou stands two metres tall and displays the message 'May Peace Prevail on Earth/He Maungārongo ki runga i te whenua' in English and te reo Māori, along with two other languages from the total of 86 other languages spoken in the Hawke's Bay region. The pou were gifted for permanent installation in parks, church grounds, marae, and public parks in a ceremony at Te Aranga Marae in Flaxmere on International Peace Day - the 21<sup>st</sup> of September.





Kia Ora | Namaste | Assalamalaikum | Ni Hao | Sat Shri Akaal



# PŌWHIRI

**What:**  
**A pōwhiri for the new appointed Ethnic Liaison Coordinator - Eastern District Police**

**Where:**  
**Te Aranga Marae.**  
**18 Boston Crescent, Flaxmere**

**When:**  
**27 AUGUST @10 am**



RSVP to [ethniccommunitymatters@mcahb.org.nz](mailto:ethniccommunitymatters@mcahb.org.nz)







## Hakaterere Multi Cultural Centre

Hakaterere Multi Cultural Council, founded more than twenty years ago, is an NGO which supports new members of our community as they find their feet, and creates opportunities for connection and the creation of meaningful relationships across ethnic and cultural groups. We connect migrants and newcomers with one another and with the local community. Our goal is to maintain and develop a culture of understanding and acceptance in Ashburton so that people from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds feel welcomed by our community as a whole and valued for the contributions they make to our overall development.

Our board consists of six trustees and a paid secretary/treasurer, and we employ one, amazing, full-time coordinator to facilitate all the activities that we squeeze into our programmes.

We run three main projects – a drop-in Migrants Centre operating out of Community House in Ashburton, an Ethnic Leaders Forum which acts as a direct channel of communication with migrant/ethnic communities, and the Newcomers Network. Through these programmes we have reached more than two hundred individuals or whānau looking to access our services in the last year.

A feature of our activities this year has been the collaborations we have undertaken with other organisations and trusts, including Ashburton A & P Association, Timebank/Connecting Mid Canterbury, Ashburton District Welcoming Communities, Multi Cultural Bite Ashburton, Plunket, Volunteering Mid and South Canterbury, Ashburton Art Gallery, Digital Waitaha, among many others.

As always, we are eternally grateful to our sponsors and funders, without whom this important kaupapa would not be possible – Ashburton District Council, Advance Ashburton Community Trust of Mid and South Canterbury, Creative NZ, Lion Foundation, COGS, Lotteries, Braided Rivers Trust, Ministry for Ethnic Communities.

### Ashburton A & P Show

Ashburton Agricultural and Pastoral (A & P) Association have been holding their annual show in Ashburton since 1877, and this year's show set as its theme 'Multi Cultural Mid Canterbury'.



Hakaterere Multi Cultural Council worked with the association to set up displays that filled the President's Marquee, provided a full programme of music and dance throughout the day, and led the Grand Parade. Record crowds flocked to the showgrounds for the first

show since Covid wiped out the previous two years' shows.



Given that A & P shows occur around the country, this though was an ideal way for regional multicultural councils to connect our rural communities with the cultures that keep their sector operating. We had requests from other A & P associations within our district for a similar programme, and we are aware that the concept has spread further through Te Wai Pounamu.



### Ashburton Multi Cultural Bite

This annual event in its fourteenth year, held to mark Waitangi Day, also attracts thousands from across Canterbury to sample food, dance and song from around the globe, all put on by migrant communities in our district.





In 2023 Hakatere Multi Cultural Council provided a display of Te Tiriti o Waitangi documents in a range of the most widely spoken languages used in our district, and promoted our services to the many thousands of people who turned up to this award-winning event.





## Other one-off events

Hakatere Multi Cultural Council also participated in the following events –

- A Multicultural Day at Hakatere Marae
- Ōpuke Festival of Culture
- Emergency Poster launch (emergency procedures translated into 9 languages)
- Lions Club Christmas Tree competition
- Hiwa Wahine seminars
- Digital Inclusion workshop
- Farm Fun Day for newcomers, immigrants, and former refugee whānau
- Children’s Day
- Easter at the Marae
- Mid-Winter Christmas
- Amazing Race Ashburton

As I write this report, our coordinator Mercedes is planning for an upcoming Night Noodle Market to mark Multicultural Day/Welcoming Week, a series of four Creative Workshops, and an Ethnic Communities Day.



## Regular Events

Hakatere Multi Cultural Council have organised the following events (collaborating organisations in brackets) –

- “A Taste of...” monthly cooking classes (in collaboration with Timebank) have included Mexico, Afghanistan, Ireland, Summer, Kiwi Baking, Vietnam, Ethiopia, India, The Netherlands, and Colombia so far this year.
- Cultural Awareness workshops (Volunteering Mid and South Canterbury, Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum) have highlighted the cultures of Tonga, Fiji, Philippines, Samoa, and Afghanistan. Like the ‘Taste of...’ events the presenters have all been people resident in our community. A number of agencies and volunteer organisations are regular attendees.
- Kōwhai Mums (Ashburton Art Gallery) is a monthly session of paint and play for mums and toddlers from our migrant communities.
- Parent Coffee Mornings (Plunket)
- Newcomer Coffee mornings
- Salsa classes (Timebank/Connecting Mid Canterbury)
- Newcomers Newsletter (Ashburton Guardian/ Ashburton Courier)

I have no doubt that the next twelve months will be just as action-packed and impactful.

**Selwyn Price**

**Chair**

**Hakatere Multi Cultural Council**





## Dunedin Multicultural Council

### DMCC Activities

#### Resettlement Strategy Consultation Shapes the Future

The community engagement sessions held by the Dunedin Multicultural Council as part of the MBIE Dunedin Former Refugee, Migrant & Pacific People resettlement strategy consultation proved to be a significant opportunity for the residents of Dunedin. Through these sessions, diverse voices came together to provide their insights on how to enhance future resettlement experiences. As a result of this collaborative effort, the strategies were updated to better align with the evolving needs of refugees, migrants, and Pacific communities. This initiative showcased the power of community participation in shaping policies that impact lives.



#### Empowering Ethnic Communities to Address Family and Sexual Violence



The Ministry of Social Development's workshop on preventing family and sexual violence in ethnic communities, organized in collaboration with the Dunedin Multicultural Council, had a profound impact. By bringing together representatives from various ethnic backgrounds, organizations, and service providers, this workshop facilitated open dialogues and shared experiences. Through these conversations, actionable solutions were identified to address the unique challenges faced by these communities. The event fostered awareness, understanding, and collaboration, contributing to safer environments for everyone.

#### Inclusive Decision-Making: Changing the Council's Name

The Special General Meeting of the Dunedin Multicultural Council marked a significant turning point in the organization's journey. Through a referendum, the community made a collective decision to change the council's name to the Dunedin Multi-Cultural Council, reflecting the evolving perspectives on diversity and culture. This process exemplified the council's commitment to democratic decision-making and inclusive representation. The involvement of community members, tangata whenua, and organizations ensured that the name change was not only symbolic but also aligned with the values of the broader community.

## 30 Years of Cultural Celebration and Unity

The Dunedin Multi-Cultural Council's 30th birthday celebration served as a testament to the council's enduring commitment to unity and diversity. The event brought together individuals from various cultural backgrounds, showcasing the vibrant tapestry of the city. Through cultural performances, shared meals, and artistic expressions, attendees experienced the richness of different traditions. This celebration demonstrated how the council has successfully nurtured an inclusive environment over the years, where cultural differences are celebrated and embraced.



## Honouring a Multicultural Advocate's Legacy

The Dunedin Multicultural Council's tribute to Dr. Puketapu highlighted the profound impact of his leadership and advocacy in promoting inclusivity and understanding among multicultural communities. Dr. Puketapu's dedication left a lasting impression on New Zealand's diverse landscape. This gesture of gratitude not only honoured his legacy but also inspired others to continue his mission of fostering harmony and unity among all cultures.

These impact stories illustrate the Dunedin Multicultural Council's dedication to creating a diverse and inclusive community where every voice is heard, celebrated, and valued. Through collaborative efforts, policy shaping, awareness-building workshops, celebratory events, and honouring leaders, the council has played a vital role in enriching the cultural fabric of Dunedin.

## Ethnic Community Connect Programme

### Strengthening Sri Lankan Community Bonds

The establishment of the Dunedin Sri Lankan Society marked a pivotal moment for the Sri Lankan community in Dunedin. The inaugural meeting brought together Sri Lankans from various backgrounds, creating a platform for connection and collaboration. Elected office bearers and committee members showcased the community's commitment to working together. This society became a hub for cultural preservation, mutual support, and fostering a sense of belonging among Sri Lankans living in the city and its suburbs.

### Cultural Celebrations and Connections

The Dunedin Multicultural Council's engagement with the Chinese Language Week demonstrated its dedication to promoting cultural diversity. By celebrating the learning of Chinese languages, the council encouraged cross-cultural interactions. Similarly, the Diwali celebration showcased the council's commitment to embracing various cultural festivals. Through events like these, the council fostered an environment where different cultures could come together, share traditions, and build meaningful connections.



## Community Support and Advocacy

The Dunedin Multicultural Council actively engaged in supporting causes beyond cultural celebrations. Initiatives like Pink Shirt Day, aimed at standing against bullying, highlighted the council's commitment to promoting inclusivity and addressing social issues. Similarly, the council's response to the Pakistan Flood showcased its compassion and solidarity, rallying the community to provide urgent support to those affected by natural disasters.

## Creating Inclusive Events

The World Refugee Day event organized by the Dunedin Multicultural Council showcased the power of collaboration. Partnering with local organizations, the council created a safe and welcoming space for refugees and migrants to connect with the local community. Through activities, performances, and shared meals, this event emphasized the importance of fostering a sense of home away from home and creating a supportive environment for newcomers.

## Fostering Cultural Exchange

The Dragon Boat Festival organized by the Dunedin Senior Chinese Association and the Dunedin Shanghai Association exemplified the council's commitment to fostering cultural exchange. By involving diverse participants from different backgrounds, the event celebrated Chinese culture while inviting others to learn and appreciate it. The event showcased the power of cultural activities in bridging communities and promoting mutual understanding.

## Embracing Indigenous Traditions - Huarahi Hau

The council's acknowledgement of Matariki, the Māori New Year, demonstrated its dedication to embracing New Zealand's culture and Tikanga of Tangata Whenua. By extending warm wishes for Matariki, the council showed its respect for Māori traditions and its commitment to inclusivity that encompasses all cultures present in Aotearoa.

## Tamariki Council Program

### Empowering Families through Health and Play



**Dunedin Multicultural Council**  
Celebrating Diversity

**KORU PLAYGROUP**

**Tuesday 13 June**  
10:30 to 12pm

**Dunedin Multicultural Council's Koru Playgroup.**  
All 0-6 year olds and whānau welcome. We have toys, books, snacks and hot drinks for the parents. Come along to play, connect & celebrate diversity with us.

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the Month, 10:30 am – 12 noon

Plunket Rooms South City Mall, 134 Hillside Road, South Dunedin 9012  
For more details contact: [koruplaygroup@dmc.org.nz](mailto:koruplaygroup@dmc.org.nz)

The Koru Playgroup sessions organized by the Dunedin Multicultural Council have been a source of empowerment and education for parents and caregivers of young children. One such session, featuring Caren from Empower Me fitness, stands out for its impact on the community. Parents and caregivers with children aged 0-6 years gathered to learn about the significance of exercise for both adults and young ones. Caren's expertise shed light on integrating physical activity into busy routines while caring for children. The session provided practical tips, stretches, and demonstrations that left attendees motivated to incorporate healthy habits into their daily lives. By addressing the needs of parents and caregivers and encouraging children's development through play, the Koru Playgroup program contributes to the overall well-being of families in Dunedin.

## Creating Connections through Play

The Koru International Playgroup sessions offered a platform for parents and caregivers to connect, share experiences, and bond over their common journey of raising children. The general play session on May 13th exemplified the council's commitment to fostering a sense of community among diverse families. Parents and caregivers, irrespective of their cultural backgrounds, came together with their children aged 0-6 years. This session promoted interaction among families and facilitated friendships that transcend cultural boundaries. By providing a safe and inclusive space for children to play and parents to connect, the council's playgroup initiatives play a crucial role in building a strong support network for families in Dunedin.

These impact stories highlight the Tamariki Council program's role in creating a positive impact on families' lives. Through educational sessions, engaging activities, and opportunities for connection, the Dunedin Multicultural Council contributes to the well-being and unity of families with young children.

## Senior Council Program

### Celebrating Culture and Community in Senior Years

The Dunedin Multicultural Council's Senior Council initiative actively engages seniors from diverse backgrounds, fostering a sense of connection and celebration. The event marking the International Day for Older People on October 1, 2022, showcased the council's commitment to honouring and valuing the contributions of seniors. By organizing events that bring seniors together, the council provides a platform for cultural exchange, discussion, and the recognition of the wisdom and experiences that seniors bring to the community.

### Preserving and Sharing Traditions

The Dunedin Senior Chinese Association's Mid-Autumn Festival celebration encapsulated the power of cultural events to bridge generational and cultural gaps. The event marked not only the traditional Mid-Autumn Festival but also the 50th anniversary of China-NZ relations. The celebration resonated with both local residents and the Chinese diaspora, showcasing the unity and harmony within the Dunedin community. The council's commitment to organizing events that promote ethnic diversity, cultural acceptance, and integration contributes to fostering a more inclusive and vibrant community.

## Community Building through Gardening

The Heart & Soil Community Garden sessions organized by the Dunedin Multicultural Council exemplify the power of shared activities in fostering unity and friendship among seniors. These sessions offer an opportunity for seniors and community members to engage in gardening, learn about plants, and contribute to a shared garden space. The social aspect of sharing snacks and conversations after the gardening sessions adds an element of community-building that goes beyond tending to plants. These sessions highlight the council's commitment to creating spaces where seniors can learn, bond, and enjoy the outdoors together.



**2022 Heart & Soil Garden Project**  
A Dunedin Multi-ethnic Council and Musselburgh School Partnership

**2022 Dates** Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month 10am - 12noon  
Catchup with a Cuppa & biscuits afterwards

Grow your own herbs & vegetables

Learn about Growing food in NZ

We will be setting up through the winter months. In the summer months we will be actively growing. We are also looking for volunteers to do marketing and promotional activities. If you are keen please contact us.

Contact Priscilla on 022 1133 265 or Lux on 021 727 473



Musselburgh School Grounds,  
Corner Culling & Auld Streets





## Uniting Seniors through Shared Activities

The council's Monthly Multicultural Senior Catchup stands as a testament to its dedication to creating an inclusive space for seniors to connect, share, and learn. By organizing regular gatherings, the council facilitates meaningful discussions on crucial topics like elder abuse, loneliness, mental health, and technology education. These catchups offer more than just conversation; they provide a platform for building connections, sharing life experiences, and addressing common challenges faced by seniors from different cultural backgrounds.

These impact stories showcase the Dunedin Multicultural Council's Senior Council program as a driving force behind connecting seniors, promoting cultural exchange, and offering opportunities for seniors to remain active, engaged, and valued members of the community.



DMCC Senior Council Presents

### MONTHLY MULTICULTURAL SENIOR CATCHUP

Connecting and Sharing in the Senior and Elder Space

Join us for our monthly multicultural senior catchup, where seniors from different backgrounds can come together to share thoughts and ideas, enjoy a light meal and beverages, and make connections with each other.

Our catchups provide a safe and inclusive space to address important issues such as elder abuse, loneliness, mental health, and technology education. We believe that everyone has valuable experiences and perspectives to share, and we aim to create an environment that fosters meaningful conversations and connections.

**When:** First Thursday of every month, 12pm–2pm  
**Where:** Age Concern, 10 The Octagon, Central Dunedin, Dunedin 9016 (entrance via Moray Place in Octagon, Next to Gellato Junkie)

All seniors are welcome, and no RSVP is required. We look forward to seeing you there!

AGE Concern OTAGO Collaboration Partner



For more information, contact:  
seniorcouncil@dmecc.org.nz  
www.dmecc.org.nz

## Women's Council Program

### Connecting Women and their Pets

The Chai & Chat Women's Group, organized by the Dunedin Multicultural Council, goes beyond cultural exchange to create personal connections. The "Please tell us about your pets" session brings women together over shared stories of their beloved furry friends. By discussing their pets' quirks and personalities, women form bonds that transcend cultural boundaries, fostering a sense of unity and understanding.

### Tea Time and Health Benefits

The Chai & Chat ladies group's session on the health benefits of tea showcases the council's commitment to holistic well-being. The event encourages women to share their favourite teas, turning a simple beverage into a platform for cultural exchange and health discussions. Through this interactive experience, women learn about the diverse world of teas while discovering common threads that tie them together.



### Chai & Chat

WOMEN'S GROUP By DMMC Women's Council

**Session Theme:**  
**Woman Leaders**

**Special Guest:**  
**Shantashree Mitra**  
Enterprise Dunedin -  
Dunedin City Council

**Where:**  
Dunedin Community  
House, 301 Moray Place

**FRI  
7 JULY  
12:45  
PM**

We look forward to having you join us for this enlightening session

For further information, please contact:  
Email: [chaichatdunedin@dmecc.org.nz](mailto:chaichatdunedin@dmecc.org.nz)  
Website: <https://dmecc.org.nz/chaichat/>

## Celebrating Diversity in Education

Inviting Kristan Mouat, Co-Principal at Logan Park High School, to the Chai & Chat women's group exemplifies the council's dedication to celebrating diversity in education. By discussing the school's initiatives, including race unity celebrations and shared languages lunches, the session emphasizes the importance of creating inclusive learning environments. This event empowers women with insights to promote diversity and understanding in their own communities.

## **Promoting Health and Fitness**

The Chai & Chat women's group's low-impact Zumba and other fitness sessions demonstrate the council's focus on holistic well-being. By offering enjoyable fitness activities, the council promotes physical health while also providing a social space for women to bond. These sessions not only inspire women to prioritize their health but also create a sense of community and camaraderie.

## **Cultural Celebrations and Unity**

The Multicultural Eid Chand Raat Carnival is a prime example of the council's dedication to fostering unity among diverse cultures. By bringing together various cultural communities under one roof, the carnival showcases the vibrancy and richness of different traditions. This event not only educates attendees about various cultures but also promotes cross-cultural friendships and understanding.

## **Empowering Women Through Knowledge Sharing**

The Chai & Chat women's group's workshops on topics like healthier alternatives for period care and cultural practices highlight the council's commitment to education. By providing practical knowledge and encouraging conversations on sensitive subjects, the council empowers women to make informed decisions about their health and explore cultural practices.

## **Creating Safe Spaces for Passion Sharing**

The Women's Council's session that encourages women to share their passions and hobbies creates a safe and inspiring environment. By allowing women to discuss their interests and endeavours, the council nurtures a sense of belonging and mutual support. This event reinforces the importance of each woman's unique experiences and interests.

## **Empowering Volunteers and Recognizing Contributions**

The council's recognition of volunteer members like Hannah Lord, Phoebe Roberts, and Lisa Houghton showcases their appreciation for those who contribute to the community. By acknowledging the efforts of volunteers, the council motivates others to actively participate and make a positive impact. This recognition fosters a culture of community engagement and mutual appreciation.

## **Cultural Exchange Through Shared Meals**

The women's only event celebrating diversity through a shared potluck lunch exemplifies the council's commitment to cultural exchange. By encouraging attendees to bring dishes from their own ethnic or cultural backgrounds, the event promotes understanding and appreciation for diverse cuisines and customs. This event creates a platform for women to bond over food and stories.

## **Community Engagement and Inclusion**

The Chai & Chat women's group's participation in the community lunch at Araiteuru Marae exemplifies the council's dedication to community engagement and inclusion. By actively involving women in local events, the council strengthens connections between different communities and emphasizes the importance of shared experiences and cultural exchange.

These impact stories showcase how the Dunedin Multicultural Council's Women's Council program creates spaces for women to connect, learn, and celebrate their diverse backgrounds. Through a variety of engaging sessions, events, and activities, the program empowers women to make positive contributions to their communities while fostering a sense of unity and understanding.



## **Health, Wellbeing, and Sports Program**

### **Celebrating Diversity Through Cricket**

The Multi Cultural Cricket Festival, hosted by the Dunedin Multicultural Council, is not just a sports event but a celebration of diversity and unity. Bringing together cricket teams from across Otago and Southland, the festival showcases the power of sports to transcend cultural boundaries. Through friendly matches and shared experiences, participants forge connections that go beyond the pitch, promoting understanding and harmony.

### **Empowering Communities Through Sports**

The Multi Cultural Cricket Festival at Forsyth Barr Stadium demonstrates the council's commitment to promoting health and wellbeing through sports. By providing an inclusive platform for teams of different backgrounds to participate, the council empowers communities to engage in physical activities and adopt a healthy lifestyle. This event encourages people to come together, fostering a sense of camaraderie and support.

The festival's emphasis on bringing families together highlights the council's dedication to holistic wellbeing. By encouraging families to attend and support the cricket matches, the council promotes the importance of spending quality time together. This event creates an atmosphere of fun, bonding, and shared experiences that contribute to overall family wellness.

### **Promoting Active Lifestyles**

By organizing the Multi Cultural Cricket Festival, the council encourages individuals to embrace active lifestyles. Participating in friendly matches not only provides physical exercise but also promotes mental wellbeing and social interaction. The event serves as a reminder that sports contribute significantly to a person's overall health and happiness.

### **Empowering Women in Sports**

The Multi Cultural Cricket Festival creates opportunities for women to participate in sports, showcasing the council's dedication to gender inclusivity. By encouraging female participation and promoting women's cricket teams, the event breaks down gender stereotypes and empowers women to excel in sports, fostering a sense of achievement and empowerment.

### **Inspiring Youth Engagement**

The festival's celebration of cricket encourages youth engagement and active involvement in sports. By participating or watching the matches, young individuals are inspired to stay active, pursue their interests, and develop skills that contribute to their overall wellbeing. This event fosters a sense of community and mentorship among different generations.

These impact stories showcase how the Dunedin Multicultural Council's Health, Wellbeing, and Sports Program uses sports events like the Multi Cultural Cricket Festival to promote unity, inclusivity, and active lifestyles. Through these initiatives, the council fosters physical and mental wellbeing while also creating spaces for cultural exchange and community engagement.

## Youth Council Program

### Fostering Inclusivity and Unity Among Youth

The DMCC Youth Council's Mix & Mingle: A Multicultural Youth Meetup showcases the program's commitment to fostering inclusivity and unity. By inviting youth from different cultures, backgrounds, and experiences, the event creates a safe and welcoming space for connections to be formed. This platform encourages friendships to blossom, ideas to be shared, and relationships to be nurtured, emphasizing the beauty of diversity.

### Empowering Youth Voices through Multicultural Engagement

The Dunedin Multicultural Council's Youth Council Program encourages young individuals from diverse backgrounds to come together and share their thoughts, ideas, and concerns. Through events like the Youth Council Meet and Greet, youth have the opportunity to connect with like-minded peers and discuss important issues that affect them. By providing a platform for open dialogue, the program empowers youth to voice their perspectives and contribute to positive change.

### Creating Transformative Opportunities for Youth

Through the Festival for the Future conference scholarship, the DMCC Youth Council offers young individuals transformative opportunities for growth. Attending conferences and engaging with community leaders exposes them to a broader perspective and empowers them to create positive change. The program plays a pivotal role in helping youth develop their leadership potential. The program's involvement in events at the New Zealand Parliament encourages youth to actively engage with democratic institutions. By giving them the chance to interact with politicians, community leaders, and business professionals, the program inspires youth to become informed and active citizens who contribute to shaping the future of their communities and the nation.



### Leaders of the future travel to Wellington

MARK JOHN

TEN young leaders from the wider Otago region flew to Wellington yesterday and will be rubbing shoulders with politicians, entrepreneurs and community leaders at a leadership retreat.

Tairāwhiti MP Ingrid Leary said the leadership retreat gave five teenagers from the Corstorphine Hub and five from the Dunedin Multi-cultural Council the opportunity to participate in Festival for the Future, a two-day leadership retreat involving young people from all over the country, to share ideas, create networks and help shape the future of the country.

"It's an incredible positive, uplifting, inspiring conference run by young people, for young people. I wanted to ensure young people from the South get to participate, especially those who see life from a different angle to the mainstream."

Ms Leary said the retreat included visits to the National Library, Te Papa and Parliament. "I figured, if they were coming all the way to Wellington, they might as well also visit iconic



Students from the wider Otago region gather in front of the Beehive after arriving for their leadership retreat yesterday. Tairāwhiti MP Ingrid Leary is flanked by Adrian Ruru (Speaker of the House) and Fiona Chew. Back row: Teremana Mamo (left), Ranisha Chand, Mama Taana, Haroon Hassan, JayJay Papatua, Safa Haikal, Nina Rakete, Megha Senthikumar and Tevita Nina Lenati jun. Front row: Ehsad Ur Rehman Hassan (left), Amelia Zhang, Althea Goh and Vasilis Jovanides. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

institutions including Parliament so they can see pathways to change and influence and meet a diverse range of MPs so they can see people like them in political leadership."

The young leaders had been selected for displaying leadership in their communities and expressing a commitment to making a difference. Corstorphine Community Hub volunteer Vasilis Jovanides (17) said the retreat would be a way to

learn new things to pass on to the community, who were like family to him. Chinese immigrant Anselia Zhang (17) said the travel experience would help her achieve her dream of becoming a social entrepreneur.

"It's a chance to open up my network and to challenge myself to see and understand a different perspective and learn how to work with all types of people."

mark.john@odf.co.nz



The program's involvement in events like the Festival for the Future celebrates both diversity and youth leadership. By enabling youth to network with leaders from various sectors, the program showcases the potential of young individuals to drive change. This celebration of diversity and leadership contributes to a more inclusive and vibrant community.

The program's scholarship recipients attending the Festival for the Future conference exemplify how the DMCC Youth Council breaks barriers and inspires dreams. By offering opportunities to interact with leaders and influencers, the program shows young individuals that their aspirations are achievable. This exposure motivates them to pursue their goals and contribute positively to society.

### **Nurturing Leadership and Community Engagement**

The DMCC Youth Council's engagement with the Festival for the Future demonstrates its dedication to nurturing leadership skills among young individuals. By providing scholarships for youth to attend leadership retreats and conferences, the program equips them with tools to shape their communities positively. This initiative supports the growth of future leaders who are passionate about making a difference.

### **Building Bridges through Cultural Exchange**

The Multicultural Youth Catchup event series hosted by the DMCC Youth Council promotes cultural exchange and understanding. By bringing together youth from various cultural backgrounds, the program encourages cross-cultural conversations, helping to break down stereotypes and promote empathy. This platform for dialogue fosters intercultural appreciation and collaboration.

### **Supporting Personal and Community Development**

The Mix & Mingle events organized by the DMCC Youth Council emphasize the importance of cultural exchange and social connection. By providing a casual setting for youth to meet and interact, the program encourages the exchange of ideas and stories. This environment fosters a sense of belonging and encourages youth to build meaningful relationships.

Mix & Mingle events underscores its dedication to personal and community development. These gatherings offer youth an environment where they can learn, share experiences, and gain insights from one another. This collective growth fosters a sense of belonging and encourages youth to be change-makers.



These impact stories highlight the Dunedin Multicultural Council's Youth Council Program's role in empowering youth, fostering inclusivity, and nurturing future leaders. Through events, scholarships, and engagement opportunities, the program supports youth in their personal growth, encourages cultural understanding, and prepares them to make a positive impact on their communities and beyond.

## **DMCC Arts and Culture Council**

### **Global Connections through Radio**

The DMCC's Arts and Culture Council has brought the world closer to the Dunedin community through DMEC Radio. Every Tuesday at 6 pm, DMEC on Air shares stories, arts, culture, and music from around the globe. This initiative provides a platform for individuals to share their unique experiences, fostering a sense of connection and understanding among diverse cultures.

### **Empowering Youth Voices through Radio**

DMEC Radio's Youth Programme, broadcast every 3rd Tuesday of the Month, is a testament to the Arts and Culture Council's commitment to youth engagement. Hosted by Abigail and Max, this platform amplifies the voices of young individuals, giving them the opportunity to share their perspectives, talents, and stories with the community.

### **Celebrating Cultural Diversity through Music**

Peter's 'Arts & Culture through Music' program is a wonderful example of how the Arts and Culture Council promotes cross-cultural understanding. By showcasing music from various cultures, the program celebrates the richness of diversity and encourages listeners to embrace different forms of artistic expression.

### **Storytelling through Music**

The DMCC's on-air art and culture show, "Composing Life Stories through Music," is a nostalgic journey that highlights the power of music to tell stories. The Moanna House project, where residents composed music in 2002, reflects the intertwining of art and life experiences. Reviving these recordings on OAR Radio and through podcasts offers a chance for listeners to connect with the past through music.

### **Exploring Sociocultural Dynamics through Radio**

The DMCC's on-air community radio program, "DO YOU SPEAK INDIAN?" is a thought-provoking initiative that addresses pressing social issues. Dr. Supriya Rajappan's discussion on Indian high school students' bullying experiences in Aotearoa New Zealand delves into the complexities of culture, education, and social dynamics. By raising awareness about these challenges, the Arts and Culture Council promotes empathy and understanding.

### **Promoting Inclusivity and Dialogue**

The "DO YOU SPEAK INDIAN?" episode epitomizes the Arts and Culture Council's mission to foster inclusivity and dialogue. By addressing sensitive topics like bullying and cultural experiences, the program encourages open conversations that contribute to a more inclusive and respectful society. This platform provides an opportunity for individuals to learn from one another's experiences.

### **Education and Awareness through Radio**

The Arts and Culture Council's radio programs serve as valuable educational tools. By exploring topics like cultural diversity, bullying, and the challenges faced by different communities, the programs raise awareness and promote education on critical issues. Listeners gain insights that broaden their perspectives and encourage positive action.



## **Preserving Cultural Narratives**

The revival of the 2002 Moanna House project demonstrates the Arts and Culture Council's commitment to preserving cultural narratives through art. By sharing these recordings with the public, the council ensures that the stories and experiences of residents are not forgotten. This initiative helps bridge generational gaps and fosters appreciation for cultural heritage.

## **Empowering Community Voices**

Through DMEC Radio's invitation for individuals to share their stories, arts, culture, and music, the Arts and Culture Council empowers community members to take the stage. This platform celebrates the creativity and diversity within the community, providing a space for individuals to express themselves and showcase their talents.

## **Uniting Through the Airwaves**

The Arts and Culture Council's radio programs create a sense of unity among listeners. By tuning in to stories, discussions, and music from various cultures and experiences, the community comes together through shared experiences. These programs bridge gaps, cultivate empathy, and contribute to a more connected and harmonious community.

These impact stories highlight the Dunedin Multicultural Council's Arts and Culture Council's dedication to fostering cultural exchange, promoting inclusivity, and creating platforms for open dialogue. Through radio programs that celebrate diversity, share stories, and address social issues, the council strengthens community bonds, broadens horizons, and encourages positive change.



## Christchurch Multicultural Council

*Fostering Social Cohesion and Multiculturalism to Enrich New Zealand*

Tēnā koutou katoa!

It gives me great pleasure to present the report on the activities of the Christchurch Multicultural Council (CMC) for 2022-23 at the 34th Annual General Meeting. I would like to sincerely acknowledge the contributions made by the fellow members, the past members, ethnic community groups, and agencies/offices (local and central governments and NGOs) working for the migrants and refugees. I would like to congratulate the CMC for significant contributions made for the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD), communities in Christchurch and neighbouring Selwyn and Waimakariri Districts, also to the local and central governments, and the ethnic sector in general.



### **Covid-19 Pandemic**

- Supported ethnic communities with information updates from various Government offices: Ministry of Ethnic Communities, Immigration NZ, Ministry of Health, Pegasus Health, Ministry of Social Development, NZ Police, Multicultural NZ etc.
- Active participation in several other Zoom meetings with the above for addressing the concerns and needs of ethnic communities and permanent and temporary residents (international students, visitors, workers and their partners).
- Promoted Covid vaccination drives for the first, second and booster vaccinations.
- Promoted multicultural pop-up walk-in Covid vaccination clinics in Christchurch and neighbouring districts.
- Helped distribute face masks and RAT kits generously made available to us from partner agencies.
- Promoted guidelines for the preparation for self-isolation.
- Promoting Covid booster vaccination take up.

### **Supporting Central Government, its Ministries and Offices**

- New Zealand Census Day. 7 March 2023. CMC promoted the need and significance of participation.
- MNZ-NZ Police Refreshed MoU. Signing ceremony on 14 May. Wellington. RMCs attended.
- CMC members attended the conference “Theme: Ethnic Advantage” organised by the Ministry of Ethnic Communities on 3 December at Chateau on the Park Hotel, Christchurch.
- Immigration NZ Advisory Group. Matters related to migrants and refugees – Zoom meetings.
- Southern Region Community Leaders Group and United Voice - Zoom Meetings. Immigration issues and small businesses facing rising ram-raids, burglaries and attacks. Supported a rally by local small businesses (dairies and other retail shops) to protest the death of a businessman (Janak Patel) and rising crime.
- Ministry of Ethnic Communities (MEC) Southern Regional Ethnic Leaders Group – Zoom meetings.
- Human Rights Hui Christchurch – NZ’s 4th Universal Periodic Review. Tuesday 4 April. St Albans. Attended by Surinder, Archana, Hero, Farah and Irinka.



- Meeting with Living Wage Aotearoa – Nathaniel Herz-Edinger. 5 April.
- Impact of Ukraine-Russia conflict on their NZ communities – visa issues
- Iran situation related to women oppression and its impact on NZ Iranian community. Visa issues.
- Afghanistan situation – ongoing impact on NZ Afghani communities – travel, visa issues
- MNZ-RMCs online meeting with then Minister Chris Hipkins. 7 December.

### Supporting Christchurch City Council, Selwyn and Waimakariri District Councils

- Since the launch of the Christchurch Multicultural Strategy in May 2017, we have been supporting the CCC for the implementation of the strategy. We regularly present our views to the CCC Multicultural Committee (Chair Cr Jimmy Chen until September 2022). Certificate of Appreciation was received.
- Regular attendance at citizenship ceremonies of CCC and SDC to meet and greet new citizens from diverse communities and to introduce the role of CMC to them.
- CMC actively participated in INFoRM (Inter-Agency Network for Refugees and Migrants) and other community meetings.
- CMC works with CCC to raise awareness of the local body election process for ethnic communities. Our objective is to encourage ethnic communities for civic participation and to have greater representation of them on the Community Boards and the Council.

### Race Unity Day and Festival of Colours - Holi (4 March)

CMC was pleased to be again associated with Revel Events as a strategic partner and supporter (since 2017) with a view to celebrating Holi, the Festival of Colours with the wider community of diverse cultures to promote kotahitanga (solidarity), harmony, happiness, friendship and equality and respect among diverse cultures. Holi Festival also commemorated the Race Unity Day. We are One.

### Multicultural Cricket Tournaments



Fostering unity in diversity through Cricket.

A number of sports events were supported to encourage participation of multicultural communities and promote inter-culture friendship. 6th ARA All Nations Multiethnic T20 Cricket Tournament by Christchurch Metro Cricket Association and Christchurch Multicultural Council. Sponsors: Two Fat Indians Restaurant and Christchurch City Council. Sundays 27 November, 4 and 11 December 2022. Hagley Park (Polo Grounds). Heartiest congratulations to: Winner: Afghan XI. Runner up: Cornered Tigers.

I was honoured to have been invited by the organisers of a number of other social cricket tournaments at their prize giving ceremonies. Congratulations to them as well as to the players from diverse groups.

### Many Voices 2023 – We are One! CMC Multicultural Festival



To mark the MNZ New Zealand-wide Multicultural Day (25 August) to celebrate “We are One - Ko Tatou Tatou)” in cultural diversity, we are organising our multicultural festival known as MANY VOICES 2023 to be held on Saturday 26 August 2023 at La Vida Centre. We have invited organisations/groups to participate in this event with the option to perform on the main stage or promote their group through art and crafts displays & demonstrations, or information.

## 6th CultureFest 2022 – Selwyn Multicultural Festival

Selwyn District Council (SDC), CMC and Lincoln University Student Association (LUSA) helped to bring CultureFest 2022, celebrating Selwyn's growing diversity, at Lincoln Event Centre and Domain on Sunday 11 September. We witnessed record participation and attendance at this ever-popular multicultural festival (40 colourful ethnic performances and a large number of food and information stalls). CMC would like to acknowledge the support and contribution of its members, SDC, Rotary Club of Lincoln, LUSA, and all the participating groups and agencies for a very entertaining and successful CultureFest.

Karakia and Welcome by Selwyn Mayor Hon Sam Broughton.

A Big Thank You to all the participants, volunteers and supporters (SDC, CMC, Lincoln Rotary Club, Lincoln University, LUSA, community groups, agencies and others) for making the event very successful and entertaining. Special thanks to Lincoln Rotary for marshalling the car parking. Many thanks Archana Tandon JP for an excellent stage management for performances.

Selwyn CultureFest 2023 – Sunday 10 September at Lincoln Domain. Preparations are at an advance stage.



## 22nd Culture Galore (18 February)

We participated in this annual multicultural festival, organised by the Christchurch City Council, which provides an opportunity for ethnic groups to showcase their culture in the form of performing arts, music, food, crafts, sports and games. CMC is always proud to support, promote, and participate in this popular event to celebrate cultural diversity. Several of CMC members also participated in this event by way of stage performances and/or food stalls.

Special acknowledgements and congratulations to the Convenor Lisa Gregory and team at CCC and all the participants and supporters for another a very successful Culture Galore every year.

CMC promoted unity in diversity as well as the White Ribbon Campaign for the prevention of domestic violence. We distributed White Ribbons and campaign pamphlets. Thank you all for your support. It was a great day for having lots of fun.



## Supporting Migrants, Ethnic Sector and their Partners

We worked closely with the Ministry of Ethnic Communities (MEC), Human Rights Commission (HRC), Christchurch City Council (CCC), Selwyn District Council, Waimakariri Migrants & Newcomers Group, ARA, Hagley College, Resettlement Services, MSD, PEETO, Network Waitangi, Pegasus Health, NZ Police, and several ethnic community and faith groups.

- Ethnic Community Groups Hui by Hui E!, Volunteering Canterbury & SEWN (Social Equity & Wellbeing Network)
  - Hui 1 – 6 May. Defining your support needs.
  - Hui 2 – 27 May. Strategies for finding and accessing grants.
- Several meetings with MPs, and political parties' ethnic sector representatives to discuss policies and programmes for early settlement, integration of multicultural communities, and impacts of Covid-19.

## Meetings of NZFMC/Multicultural NZ (MNZ)

CMC was represented at the MNZ meetings and events held during the year:

- Multicultural New Zealand (New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils) “Governance Training and Coaching to govern Diversity” was held at Pavilions Hotel Christchurch on 6 and 7 August 2022. Various South Island Regional Multicultural Councils Executive Members and Organising Committee Members attended the Governance Training. (CMC participants: Hero Modares, Emmie King, Archana Tandon and Farahnaz Khosravi)
- MNZ Executive Council Zoom meetings – monthly.
- MNZ AGM held in Wellington on 24-25 September was attended by Sabidah Abu Bakar, Archana Tandon and Farahnaz Khosravi.
- MNZ Immigration Hui was held on 6-7 May in Auckland to discuss the development of an immigration strategy in preparation for the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Te Tiriti O Waitangi in 2040. Attended by Surinder Tandon, Hero Modares and Archana Tandon.

## Networking and Celebration: Attendance and Participation in Local Multicultural Activities



We continue to attend and support sports and cultural events, local and national governments, NGOs' functions and meetings in Christchurch and neighbouring areas. The number of cultural events continues to grow, which is fostering and celebrating cultural diversity.

- CMC-Riccarton Rotary Multicultural Day at Riccarton Rotary Market. 13 November. Cultural performances.
- CMC End-of-Year social function, Saturday 17 December at Riccarton Community Centre.
- CMC New Year Picnic, Saturday 14 January. Spencerville Park.
- Aliwan Festival by Pinoy CARES. 4 December. Outside Riverside Market.
- Philippines Day 2023. 22 February. Victoria Square.



- Chinese New Year Music Concert. 19 January. Piano.
- Chinese New Year celebrations by NZ Chinese Friendship Society, Canterbury Malaysian Society.
- Chinese Tea Ceremonies and Cultural Programme. Visiting troupe. NZICAEA Christchurch. 12 May. Halswell.
- The First NZ Golden Ribbon Multicultural Youth Music Festival, 11-16 July. Concert-16 July, Town Hall.
- Nowruz. Kia Ora Academy. 25 March. Tūranga Library.
- Multicultural Nowruz (Iran, Afghanistan, and Kazakhstan). UCISA, CIS, Simurgh Music School, and Afghan and Kazakh Groups. 19

March. Halswell.

- Opening ceremony of 73rd Annual Easter Sport Tournament of NZ Chines Association. 7 April.
- 2022 Riverside Market Multicultural Day was planned in collaboration with Riverside Market. It was cancelled twice (November and March) due to Covid and other similar events.



- Canterbury African Communities Inc. Pan-African Music, dance, and food. 25 February 2022. Riccarton.
- Indian Independence Day, Indian Teez and Baisakhi Festivals, Nepalese Dussehra Festival, Nepal New Year Day, Chinese New Year Events, Thai Food and Cultural Festival, Nowruz (Persian New Year), Riverside Market Cultural Events, The UN International Peace Day.





## Acknowledgements

To: Members of the CMC for their support, various community groups, Christchurch City Council for their support, representation, participation, communication and promotion/networking; Ngai Tahu, Network Waitangi Ōtautahi, Plains FM96.9, PEETO, Shakti, Shama, Canterbury Refugee Resource & Service Centre, CRS, Christchurch Community House, Selwyn District Council, Waimakariri Migrants & Newcomers Group, Canterbury Interfaith Society, Pegasus Health, CDHB, INFoRM (Inter-Agencies) Group, Ministry of Ethnic Communities, DIA, MSD, Immigration NZ, Human Rights Commission and Race Relations, Rotary Club of Lincoln, NZ Police, Multicultural Youth Association of Canterbury, White Ribbon, Simurgh Music School, local MPs and Councillors, Revel Events, and Christchurch Metro Cricket Association.

I sincerely thank you all for your support to me and Christchurch Multicultural Council during the year.

Nga mihi nui

**Surinder Tandon, MNZM**  
**President,**  
**Christchurch Multicultural Council Inc.**



### **Christchurch Multicultural Council Executive Committee 2022-2023**

President: Surinder Tandon    Vice-President: Hero Modares    Vice-President: Sabidah Abu Bakar

Secretary: Farahnaz Khosravi    Treasurer: Audrey Davies

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## Christchurch Multicultural Women's Council



- MNZ Women Well-being Framework Programme

The priority has been Capacity Building and Empowerment for women from diverse cultures. Structural and systemic safety for women and promoting an inclusive society and community. Personal Safety Education. Skills for Safety (S4S).

- Skills for Safety

With aim to empower women with the knowledge, attitudes, skills, and strategies of defending themselves through personal safety education programmes. Skills for safety - self-defence courses for ethnic women were conducted on 20 August 2022 and 10 June 2023.

- "Parents as Protectors"

Project for the prevention of sexual harm in children, funded by Shama Ethnic Women's Trust has been completed. The posters displaying succinct messages for the prevention of sexual harm in children have been distributed to Christchurch City Council libraries and to our networks.

Key themes that we focussed on and highlighted were: Pornography, Safe adults, Culture, Support, Communication, and Trust. Attended and presented the project at the National Hui on Prevention of Sexual Harm organised by Shama Ethnic Women's Trust. Our project presentation was well received.



- Cross-Cultural Parenting workshops

With continued support from Shama Ethnic Women's Trust I attended the facilitator training in Hamilton from 12-14 April 2023 and conducted Cross Cultural Positive Parenting workshop on 29th April at Te Ara Atea, Rolleston.

- "Let's talk Kids"

This workshop on the prevention of sexual violence in children was held on 6 June at Halswell Centre. Everyone across the community was invited to get involved and promote focus on children.

- Cultural Events

- Organised Selwyn Culture Fest with Selwyn District Council on 11th September 2022 including weeklong Cultural displays and workshops at various Selwyn district Libraries.
- Supported Christchurch Diwali on 22 October 2022 in Hagley Park and Selwyn Diwali on 13 November 2022 in Lincoln.
- Celebrated International Mother's Day on 13 May.
- Many Voices – We Are One. Christchurch Multicultural Festival on 26 August 2023 at La Vida Centre.

- Attendance and Participation in Meetings and Events

- Attended MNZ AGM and Women Council meeting on 24 & 25 September 2022.
- Attended 'Golden Ribbon' Multicultural Youth Music Festival Gala Concert at Town Hall.
- Attended White Ribbon Ambassador meeting on 29 August 2022.
- Participated in Culture Galore on 18 February 2023 at Ray Blank Park. Promoted messages as White Ribbon Ambassador. Supporting women experiencing domestic violence.



- Attended Women in Public Service summit on 14 March 2023 at Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre
- Attended Multicultural Nowruz Celebrations on 19 March at Halswell Centre
- Attended “Human Rights Hui Christchurch – NZ’s 4th Universal Periodic Review” on 4th April 2023.
- Collaboration with Ministry of Ethnic Communities on Women-to-Women (W2W) well-being project.
- Promoted and encouraged Covid-19 vaccinations and boosters. Distribution of Covid-19 RAT kits and masks.
- Attended MNZ Immigration Hui on 6 & 7 May 2023
- Continued support to mosque attack victims by mentoring and advice to women.

My sincere gratitude to all women from diverse communities for their participation and continued support.

**Archna Tandon**

**Chair**

**Christchurch Multicultural Women’s Council**





Auckland City  
Multi-Ethnic Council Inc.  
Bringing Diverse Communities Together

## **Auckland City Multi-Ethnic Council**

I take immense pride in the unwavering positivity, resilience, and compassion displayed by our team throughout the 2022-2023 period. This year presented both challenges and opportunities, and our team rose to the occasion. In these unprecedented times, we have reimagined our approach to work, embracing greater flexibility, technological advancements, and a strong focus on inclusivity.

Our past experiences, unwavering dedication, and the support we received positioned us well to navigate current challenges. Elevating our events to new heights, including effective assistance to communities in need, has enhanced our accessibility and support. Collaborations with other organizations during this period have paved a promising path for our future endeavours.

The past two years have witnessed seismic shifts across the world. As our societies evolve, potentially permanently altered by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is my aspiration that we recognize our interconnectedness and unite in rebuilding a prosperous community and Country.

Our determination is stronger than ever to provide aid to the most vulnerable, those left exposed by disasters and pandemics across all societies, particularly in Auckland. Addressing trade injustices, employee exploitation, and high prices that perpetuate poverty is central to our mission. This is why we are actively seeking partnerships and programs with businesses and government departments.

We are also proactively advocate in areas like Immigration, Social Cohesion and collaborating with others to drive positive change. Anticipation is high for the upcoming months, brimming with additional engagements. Our sights are set on a year of significantly elevated ambition. Armed with innovative ideas, dedicated volunteers, and unwavering determination, we can proudly build upon last year's foundation and look ahead to serving the community in even more impactful ways.

Your ongoing support is deeply appreciated. Thank you.

**Ibrar Sheikh**  
**President, Auckland City Multi-Ethnic Council**

### **Acknowledgements**

Our gratitude knows no bounds as we acknowledge the invaluable support and guidance tendered by Multi-Cultural NZ throughout this reporting period. The Hui gatherings and meticulously organized meetings orchestrated by MNZ have proven to be invaluable assets.

We also acknowledge the Government and NGO's for supporting and funding us. Without their support, we would not have accomplished much. We extend our gratitude to both the Government and various NGOs for their generous backing and financial aid. Their support has been instrumental in our substantial accomplishments.



## **Tributes**

In solemn remembrance, we honour the memory of our former President, Gul Zaman, and the subsequent passing of Muktar Ditta who took over from Gul Zaman. Their presence illuminated our organization, and though their absence presented challenges, we press onward, guided by their wisdom and contributions.

In the face of such trials, the unwavering commitment and dedication of our collective group have enabled us to remain resolute in the pursuit of our planned activities.

## **Events update**

Reflecting on this reporting period, our endeavours reached beyond our organization's boundaries, extending aid to those affected by floods in Auckland, Gisborne, and Hastings. Simultaneously, our unwavering support for local communities navigating the complexities of the COVID pandemic remained steadfast.

Regrettably, the flooding forced the cancellation of various initiatives, including workshops and sporting events. However, we have intentions of rescheduling these programs for a later date within this year. With determination in our hearts and unity as our guide, we look forward to forging ahead, amplifying the positive impact we make on our community and the world.

Thank you for standing beside us.

## **Conclusion**

In closing, the journey of the 2022-2023 period has been one marked by the indomitable spirit, resilience, and compassion of our team. As challenges and opportunities intertwined, our team met each moment with unwavering determination. In the face of unprecedented times, we redefined our work approach, embracing flexibility, technological advancement, and inclusivity as guiding principles.

Drawing from our collective experiences, unyielding dedication, and the invaluable support we received, we navigated the currents of current challenges adeptly. Elevating our endeavours to new heights, particularly in providing effective aid to communities in need, has reinforced our accessibility and support. Collaborative efforts with fellow organizations during this period have illuminated a promising trajectory for our future pursuits.

In the backdrop of seismic global shifts over the past two years, our societies stand reshaped by the sweeping impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, let us strive to honour our shared interconnectedness, uniting in our commitment to rebuild a prosperous community and nation.

Proactivity reigns as we advocate for advancements in immigration and social cohesion, uniting with others to forge a brighter path. The horizon gleams with anticipation, brimming with forthcoming engagements. With our sights set on a year marked by elevated ambitions, bolstered by innovative ideas, dedicated volunteers, and resolute determination, we stand poised to amplify the impact of last year's groundwork, channelling it into more profound service to our community.

Your unwavering support remains an anchor, inspiring and propelling us forward. With heartfelt gratitude, we extend our thanks for your continued alliance.



## **MNZ Women's Council**

At the 2022 MNZ AGM on 24 September 2022, Lonie Martin became President of the MNZ Women's Council, Thelma Bell and Jeanie Holland joined the women's council as Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

The Women's Council next met on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and passed the draft charter. An event to bring together women delegates from regional multicultural councils was planned. It was a challenge to get funding for this initiative, but the council did the best we could do under the circumstances.

### **Women's Forum 5 August 2023**

25 Women's Council delegates from across New Zealand gathered in Wellington for a forum. The representative heard from the pioneering trailblazer, Pohswan Narayanan, who initiated the Women's Council in its early days. Then a workshop was facilitated by Vanisa Dhiru, who was instrumental in the early days of the women's council getting set up.

The delegates reflected on what we need to do. Some ideas for the Women's Wellbeing Framework are to build comprehensive resources on how to find support and develop module that reflect current issues. We need to find gaps in the information and cater for women in terms of older generation and younger age groups and focus on access to essential services like healthcare and education.

We acknowledged that the foundational values are relevant, but we also need to futureproof the programme by making it inclusive and accessible to women who may be in remote areas. Another consideration is who is eligible for support services in terms of those holding temporary visa, residency, and citizenship.

In recent years, belonging has become more challenging, and racism is rife in our community. The women have lost confidence. A question was asked, how do we regain that mindset and maintain tolerance in the world?

### **The Women's Wellbeing Framework Refresh**

As a Te Tiriti-based organisation, Te Whare Tapa Whā was presented as a model of wellbeing. The whare and four walls symbolising physical, spiritual, mental, and family wellbeing. It aligns with the four pillars included in the wellbeing framework:

I feel I belong

My family's needs are met

I am part of the community

I lead a balanced life

The Women's Council resolved to be authentic, resourceful, and self-aware in order to implement these goals in the communities we live in.



## Emerging Issue: Family Violence

One of the emerging issue Aotearoa New Zealand is facing is increase in family violence since the Covid-10 pandemic era started. Family violence comes in many forms. For example, common types include physical, psychological, sexual, financial, but it can even be dowry related or abuse towards pets. It is a pattern of behaviour described by power and control dynamics.

We understood that many women are experiencing conflict in relationship and their partnership with their spouse continues. The members of the women's council learned that in family violence situations the whole family is suffering. We cannot assume that they are only perpetrators but instead need to refer to them as 'users of violence.' There are plans to incorporate new content in the Women's Wellbeing Framework to bring awareness, educate and prevent family violence in multicultural communities.

## Moving Forward

The Women's Council is keen to continue working on the Women's Wellbeing Framework, where we seek to provide resources and support to roll out the refreshed and updated programme throughout the motu. Regional multicultural councils are strongly encouraged to take ownership of developing and implementing women's wellbeing in their local communities.



# Performance Report

New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated  
For the year ended 31 March 2023



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## Entity Information

### New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated For the year ended 31 March 2023

'Who are we?', 'Why do we exist?'

#### Legal Name of Entity

New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated "NZFMC"

#### Entity Type and Legal Basis

Incorporated Society under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and a registered charity under the Charities Act 2005

#### Registration Number

445336, CC36978

#### Entity's Purpose or Mission

To promote, support and share information among the Regional Councils and New Zealand's Multicultural Communities.

To work with more recent migrants and refugees achieve successful settlement outcomes in Aotearoa New Zealand through adequately funded and resourced volunteering capacity to support migrants achieve successful integration into their respective communities.

#### Entity Structure

NZFMC is an umbrella organisation for the multicultural community. NZFMC is governed by an Executive Committee which is elected for a one year term. The Executive committee comprises five positions including President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Past-President. In addition, there are 23 executive members, one from each active Regional Council. NZFMC's operational arm manages the implementation of the organisation's work programs and operations with four part time staff. Volunteers and a contractor (Project Coordinator) are engaged for specific roles and projects as required. Operating regionally around the country allows NZFMC to connect directly with both ethnic and mainstream communities at the grassroots level creating bottom up asset based community development approach to our support services and leadership.

The National office also interacts with central and local government agencies, NGOs and business leaders to build awareness and advocacy around the challenges faced by New Zealand's ethnic communities. NZFMC is currently working on Huarahi Hou, an initiative that aims to connect recent migrants, refugees and newcomers in New Zealand with tangata whenua through the local marae. It is a pathway that gives the opportunity for new migrants to be welcomed onto marae and to participate in a range of tikanga Māori activities led by tangata whenua around Aotearoa /New Zealand.

NZFMC is currently piloting the Woman's Wellbeing Framework which is a set of learning modules designed to help woman of all cultures thrive in New Zealand. This Framework educate and empower woman to embrace the rights and freedoms that are available to them in New Zealand. More Recently NZFMC, during the current COVID-19 emergency has worked closely with central and local government agencies to ensure that communities and their whanau around NZ are safe in their respective environments.

#### Main Sources of Entity's Cash and Resources

NZFMC's income mainly comes from project-targeted contestable grants and membership fees. Over the past year, NZFMC has obtained grants from Ministry of Ethnic Communities, Lotteries Grant Board, Ministry of Social Development, NZ Police, Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Department of Internal Affairs and membership fees. NZFMC relies on contestable grants and volunteers support to deliver its services.





### **Main Methods Used by Entity to Raise Funds**

NZPMC does not engage in fundraising activities.

### **Entity's Reliance on Volunteers and Donated Goods or Services**

NZPMC has a volunteer Executive Committee to provide the organisation's direction, advising on strategic planning, current projects, policy and risk, and monitoring financial performance. The organisation has a wide volunteer base for operating work and events held across New Zealand.

### **Physical Address**

Level 1, 192 Tinakori Road, Thorndon, Wellington 6011

### **Postal Address**

PO Box 1409, Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand, 6140

### **Phone/fax number**

04 9169177

### **Email**

info@mnz.org.n

### **Website**

www.multiculturalnz.org.nz

### **Facebook page**

<https://www.facebook.com/MulticulturalNZ>

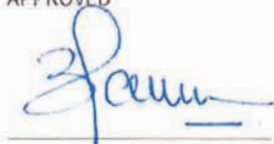


# Performance Report

## New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated For the year ended 31 March 2023

The Executive Committee are pleased to present the approved performance report including the historical financial statements of New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated for the year ended 31 March 2023.

APPROVED



Pancha Narayanan

President

Date 29/08/23



Prem Singh

Treasurer

Date 29/08/2023





# Statement of Service Performance

## New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated For the year ended 31 March 2023

'What did we do?', 'When did we do it?'

### Description of Entity's Outcomes

"We have attempted to assess our performance as a strong and growing network, not only against our financial management but also against the values founded in our constitution.

As an organisation committed to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, NZFMC wants to measure our success using kaupapa Māori. The six strategic objectives were devised in consultation with community leadership from around the country as NZFMC's Strategic Plan. They reflect the most pressing areas of need and growth among New Zealand's migrant and former refugee communities."

### Description and Quantification of the Entity's Outputs

Key strategic objectives and outcomes of New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils aim to achieve, influence and deliver are:

Outcomes and Outputs	2023	2022
<b>Outcome A: Safety for communities and their families</b>		
<b>Output 1. Regional Multicultural Councils and their communities have easy access to information and services in as many languages as possible</b>		
Initiative 1: Give Nothing to Racism, COVID-19 Response.	4 digital hubs completed, 4 more underway.	1 digital hub completed, 4 underway.
<b>Output 2. NZFMC understanding and communicating to the public of NZ cultural context associated with safety to the public of NZ.</b>		
Initiative 1: Waitangi Day celebrations in all regions around New Zealand.	20,000	20,000. Celebrations in 2022 affected by Omicron.
Initiative 2: Race Relations Day celebrations in all regions around the country.	30,000 - 40,000	30,000 - 40,000
Initiative 3: Race Relations Day Speech contest jointly with the Bahai Community.	150	150
Initiative 4: Highlight issues related to New Zealand cultural context.	5 Press releases	10 Press releases



<b>Output 3. Understand the needs of the vulnerable in the communities that Regional Multicultural Councils work with</b>		
Initiative 1: NZFMC / Regional Multicultural Council to expand and establish demonstrable relationships to understand the needs of the vulnerable in the communities	New initiatives: 1. Age Concern approached for organising a Seniors' wellbeing workshop for developing a Seniors' wellbeing framework. 2. Women's Wellbeing Framework update work started. Women's hui planned for the second half of 2023.	No new initiatives.
Initiative 2: Implement NZFMC Women's top priorities. E Tū Whānau and launch of Safety of Women and Children (Participants).	72 participants	68 participants
Initiative 3: Understanding the needs of the vulnerable. Women's Capacity Building Workshop.	20 participants	18 participants
<b>Outcome B: Improved inclusion</b>		
<b>Output 1: NZFMC will support all efforts to eradicate institutional racism and discrimination.</b>		
Initiative 1: Organise NAPAR (National Action Plan Against Racism) sessions	8 RMC NAPAR Sessions	0
<b>Output 2. Put in place action plans for the major metropolitan cities</b>		
Initiative 1: Auckland Leadership Forum and related activities.	3	1
<b>Output 3: Invest in a digital hub to bring together all communities in New Zealand.</b>		
Initiative 1: Model of NZFMC Digital Hub being extended to other communities	Currently in progress with Wellington Fiji Association	N/A
<b>Output 4: Develop objectives and reportable metrics for public presentation of our volunteering effectiveness.</b>		
Initiative 1: Build an extensive national associates network which we can share information, consult and cooperate on	Being developed. Organised one hui.	12 stakeholders approached.





matters of common interest and concern. Communities Commission for Culture.		
<b>Output 5. Modernising attitudes of host communities toward migrants</b>		
Initiative 1: Approach wider communities of New Zealand for a cohesive interaction with migrants	<p>1. Te Tiriti-based Multicultural Day Celebrated by all RMCs around the motu</p> <p>2. Multicultural Day celebrated at Ministry of Health</p>	N/A
<b>Outcome C: Sustainment and Modernisation</b>		
<b>Output 1: Continue to grow NZFMC' profile across all channels, particularly digital, so we become a household name.</b>		
Initiative 1: Discuss and agree to a new organisational purpose with a new high-level operating model to support delivery. As well as build out the rest of the new operating model.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organise biannual regional meetings of Regional Multicultural Councils in the Northern, Central and Southern regions - 500 Participants</li> <li>- Youth Engagement/App Development and leadership development - 50 Participants</li> <li>- Media Release, Submissions, Newsletter and Reports - 5 Press Releases</li> <li>- NZFMC' Strategic Planning and Annual Hui - 70 Participants at Presidents Hui</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organise biannual regional meetings of Regional Multicultural Councils in the Northern, Central and Southern regions in November - 500 Participants</li> <li>- Youth Engagement/App Development and leadership development - 40 Participants</li> <li>- Media Release, Submissions, Newsletter and Reports - 10 Press Releases</li> <li>- Deliver the national intercultural training programme for NGOs - completed</li> <li>- NZFMC' Strategic Planning and Annual Hui - 250 Participants at Presidents Hui</li> </ul>
Initiative 2: Improve internal and reporting processes, evaluation, and delivery capability to enable NZFMC to change its model of funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alignment with strategic plan completed</li> <li>- NZFMC annual report on the Cataloguing in Publication (CiP) programme for all publishers in New Zealand</li> </ul>	Complete
Initiative 3: Take a concerted effort to examine and improve NZFMC' organisational culture, particularly the resistance to change and internal conflict.	165 Participants	100 Participants



<b>Output 2. Secure long-term funding</b>		
Initiative 1: Long-term sustainable funding model being developed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-year projects being developed with MoU partners: MSD and NZ Police. Also being developed with MEC</li> <li>Input being sought from internal and external stakeholders</li> </ol>	N/A
<b>Output 3: NZFMC operating as a social enterprise.</b>		
<p>Initiative 1: Ensure collaborative working relationship with government agencies and businesses. Discuss with government agencies including Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Ministry of Business, Innovation &amp; Employment, Ministry of Justice, Human Rights Commission, UNESCO, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Productive Commission and Ministry of Social Development the new NZFMC purpose and operating model, and the potential for core funding to deliver specific outputs and outcomes aligned with that purpose and operating model.</p> <p>NZFMC' Executive have established direct relationship with the Chief Executive of Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Commissioners at Human Rights Commission, Deputy CE at Ministry of Social Development, the new Commissioner of Police, with regular meetings. NZFMC Executives are invited regularly to meetings with government agencies. There are memorandums of understanding with Police and Ministry of Social Development.</p>	70 Meetings both in-person and online	60 Meetings both in-person and online
<b>Output 4: Establish 5 new Regional Multicultural Councils.</b>		
Initiative 1: Ensure collaborative working relationship with government agencies and businesses. To establish RMCs in unrepresented areas.	Reconnected with Taranaki Multiethnic Council. Taupo Multicultural Council work under progress	Two established: Te Tai o Poutini West Coast Multicultural Council and Murihiku Southland District Multicultural Council.
<b>Output 5. Build new collaborative relationships</b>		
<p>Initiative 1: Develop more Memoranda of Understanding with partner organisations</p> <p>(A memorandum of understanding (MOU) is a document that describes the broad outlines of an agreement that two or more parties have reached)</p>	<p>MoU with New Zealand Police refreshed during the year. Being developed with organisations as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Iwi Chairs Forum</li> <li>Ministry of Health</li> <li>Age Concern</li> <li>Ministry of Youth Development</li> <li>Aotearoa Inclusive</li> </ol>	<p>MoUs with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZ Police</li> <li>Ministry of Social Development</li> <li>Flightdec</li> </ol>





<b>Output 6. Bringing NZFMC and NZNN networks</b>		
Initiative 1: Evaluate the current status of Newcomers Network	Being reviewed	N/A
Initiative 2: Develop and implement a transition work programme that acknowledges established members.	Being reviewed	6
Initiative 3: New Zealand Newcomers Network initiative contributes to and enhances the work of NZFMC and affiliated Regional Multicultural Councils.	Being reviewed	15
<b>Outcome D: NZ as a Tiriti-based multicultural society</b>		
<b>Output 1: Ensure governance and management practices within NZFMC to acknowledge Tikanga Māori.</b>		
Initiative 1: All governance and management documents to demonstrate an appreciation of Tikanga Māori, through all our publications – they as much as possible bilingual.	1 Bilingual calendar published.	1 Bilingual calendar published.
Initiative 2: Develop and share widely a discussion document on what a Treaty-based Multicultural future can be for New Zealand.	New measures being developed for Race Relations Day and enhancing relationship with tangata whenua.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Raise the national profile of regional council activities for Race Relations Day under the banner of Multicultural March (Number of Regional Multicultural Councils profiled) - 27</li> <li>- Enhancing relationship with tangata whenua through Huarahi Hou Hui. Relationship with Te Āti Awa, Ngāti Whatua, Ngātiwai, Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Kahungunu - 600</li> </ul> Our patron is Tā Mark Solomon of Ngāi Tahu.
<b>Output 2. Ensure legislation, regulations and policies in New Zealand demonstrate cultural sensitivity</b>		
Initiative 1: Promote and support efforts for legislation for New Zealand's Multicultural Framework.(OIA, Open letters, support letter)	13	12
<b>Output 3: NZFMC to have a strategic long-term relationship with tangata whenua.</b>		
Initiative 1: Consult tangata whenua in how to bring Tiriti-based Multicultural values into our constitution.	To be done along with Noho Marae experience.	Underway



Initiative 2: NZFMC continue to support the regions to learn and help them to engage in a long lasting relationship with tangata whenua.	Partial funding secured for Noho Marae with National Iwi Chairs Forum.	Underway
<b>Output 4: Support Regional Multicultural Councils and their communities to adopt E Tū Whānau values as their basis for community safety.</b>		
Initiative 1: Track our achievements against the E Tū Whānau values.	Values measure incorporated into annual report and being monitored	N/A
<b>Output 5. Improve relationship with tangata whenua</b>		
Initiative 1: Planned visit to Waitangi Treaty Ground on an annual basis.	Waitangi Treaty Ground plaque ceremony for the planted tree.	Waitangi Treaty Ground tree plantation
<b>Outcome E: Participation in NZ socioeconomics</b>		
<b>Output 1. Ensuring the success of migrant businesses</b>		
Initiative 1: Collect information about supporting small businesses.	Being developed	N/A
<b>Output 2. Equitable policy for health, education, social services, justice and employment</b>		
Initiative 1: Work with partner organisations for equity policies.	Being developed	N/A
<b>Outcome F: Diversity in Volunteering</b>		
<b>Output 1: Strengthening and resourcing Regional Multicultural Council and New Zealand Newcomers Network volunteer networks.</b>		
Initiative 1: Digital resources.	Two new digital resources added to the Digital Hub during the year.	NA
<b>Output 2. Developing resources to equip volunteers professionally</b>		
Initiative 1: Ensure that member councils enhance their governance capabilities and remain informed about regulatory accountability prerequisites.	Building of resource kit for governance training complete. This kit can be further used by regional	N/A





	multicultural councils to provide governance training locally.	
<b>Output 3: Improving cultural fit of volunteering to expand diversity among volunteers.</b>		
Initiative 1: Increased the number of collaborating partnership through projects/programmes.	Being evaluated.	This was not progressed this year due to Covid-19
Initiative 2: Participation in the communities football to include regional football tournaments in all remaining regions(Players and Volunteers participated).	Scheduled for second half of 2023.	This was not progressed this year due to Covid-19



# Statement of Financial Performance

## New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated For the year ended 31 March 2023

'How was it funded?' and 'What did it cost?'

	NOTES	2023	2022
<b>Revenue</b>			
Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue	1	453,975	457,271
Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members	1	16,007	11,268
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	1	4,500	450
Other revenue	1	2,400	4,465
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>476,882</b>	<b>473,453</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Costs related to providing goods or services	2	188,299	155,459
Volunteer and employee related costs	2	189,894	135,222
Grants and donations made	2	-	6,978
Other expenses	2	12,298	11,008
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>390,490</b>	<b>308,667</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>		<b>86,392</b>	<b>164,786</b>





# Statement of Financial Position

## New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated As at 31 March 2023

'What the entity owns?' and 'What the entity owes?'

	NOTES	31 MAR 2023	31 MAR 2022
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts and cash	3	604,402	543,442
Debtors and prepayments	3	4,075	3,514
Term Deposits	3	233,563	231,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>842,040</b>	<b>777,956</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	7,816	15,132
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>7,816</b>	<b>15,132</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>849,857</b>	<b>793,088</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors and accrued expenses	4	26,948	27,861
Employee costs payable	4	3,927	6,356
Unused donations and grants with conditions	4	266,255	292,537
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>297,130</b>	<b>326,754</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>297,130</b>	<b>326,754</b>
<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)</b>		<b>552,726</b>	<b>466,334</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
Accumulated surpluses or (deficits)	6	552,726	466,334
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>		<b>552,726</b>	<b>466,334</b>



## Statement of Cash Flows

### New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
<b>Cash was received from:</b>		
Donations, fundraising and other similar receipts	489,972	594,420
Fees, subscriptions and other receipts from members	17,803	19,270
Cash receipts from other operating activities	2,575	5,374
Interest, dividends and other investment receipts	4,500	450
GST	(53,339)	(9,133)
<b>Total Cash was received from:</b>	<b>461,510</b>	<b>610,380</b>
<b>Cash was applied to:</b>		
Payments to suppliers and employees	(397,987)	(306,669)
Donations or grants paid	-	(6,978)
<b>Total Cash was applied to:</b>	<b>(397,987)</b>	<b>(313,647)</b>
General Koha/Gifts	-	-
General Koha/Gifts	-	-
<b>Total Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>63,523</b>	<b>296,733</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities</b>		
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment	-	(13,621)
<b>Total Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(13,621)</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash</b>	<b>63,523</b>	<b>283,113</b>
<b>Bank Accounts and Cash</b>		
Opening cash	774,442	491,329
Net change in cash for period	63,523	283,113
Closing cash	837,965	774,442





# Statement of Accounting Policies

## New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated For the year ended 31 March 2023

'How did we do our accounting?'

### Basis of Preparation

New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated has elected to apply PBE SFR-A (NFP) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting - Accrual (Not-For-Profit) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses equal to or less than \$2,000,000. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

### Grants & Donations

Grants and donations are accounted for depending on whether they have been provided with a "use or return" condition attached or not. Where no use or return conditions are attached to the grant or donation, revenue is recorded as income when the cash is received. Where grants or donations include a use or return condition, the grant or donation is initially recorded as a liability on receipt. The donation or grant is subsequently recognised within the Statement of Financial Performance as the performance conditions are met.

### Subscription Revenue

Relates to annual membership fees paid by Regional Multicultural Councils and is recognised on an accruals basis.

### Interest Income

Interest Income is recognised as income on an accruals basis.

### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The entity is registered for GST. All amounts are stated exclusive of GST except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.

### Income Tax

New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated is wholly exempt from New Zealand income tax having fully complied with all statutory conditions for these exemptions.

### Bank Accounts and Cash

Bank accounts and cash in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise cash balances and bank balances (including short term deposits) with original maturities of 90 days or less.

### Receivables

Accounts receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less an allowance for any uncollectible amounts. Individual debts are known to be uncollectible are written off in the period that they are identified.

### Employee Entitlement

Employee entitlements are measured at undiscounted nominal values based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay. These may include salaries accrued up to balance date and annual leave earned but not taken at balance date.



### Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are recorded at cost, less accumulated depreciation.

### Depreciation

Items of property, plant and equipment are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. Any donated assets are recorded at their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value method using depreciation rates:

Office Furniture and Equipment	12% to 21.6%
Computer Equipment	30% to 50%

### Leases

Operating lease payments, where the lessors effectively retain substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of the leased items, are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Performance on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Operating lease incentives are recognised as a liability when received and subsequently reduced by allocating lease payments between rental expenses and reduction of the liability.

### Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. Policies have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous reporting period.





# Notes to the Performance Report

## New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated For the year ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
<b>1. Analysis of Revenue</b>		
<b>Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue</b>		
Lottery Grants	251,283	33,649
Office of Ethnic Community	-	45,108
Ethnic Communities Development Fund	23,289	61,961
Human Rights Commissions	543	1,000
Todd Foundation	-	113,000
Ministry of Social Development	114,645	180,413
Ministry for Woman	-	1,827
Ministry of Culture	2,000	3,563
Auckland Council Grant	6,216	-
Ministry of Justice Grant	10,000	-
Department of Internal Affairs - Covid 19 Project	18,624	-
E Tū Whānau Grant	8,600	-
Donations	25	9,000
The Gift Trust - Namaste Foundation	-	7,000
New Zealand Police	18,750	750
<b>Total Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue</b>	<b>453,975</b>	<b>457,271</b>
<b>Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members</b>		
Membership Subscriptions	4,174	3,478
Function and Dinner Registration	8,728	7,790
Other Registration Events	3,105	-
<b>Total Fees, subscriptions and other revenue from members</b>	<b>16,007</b>	<b>11,268</b>
<b>Interest, dividends and other investment revenue</b>		
Interest Income	4,500	450
<b>Total Interest, dividends and other investment revenue</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>450</b>
<b>Other revenue</b>		
ACC Reimbursement	-	2,726
Covid Wage Subsidy	2,400	-
Hearing Dispute	-	1,739
<b>Total Other revenue</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>4,465</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>476,882</b>	<b>473,453</b>



	2023	2022
<b>2. Analysis of Expenses</b>		
<b>Volunteer and employee related costs</b>		
ACC Levies	197	-
Staff Salaries	166,654	73,160
Kiwisaver Expenses	-	2,047
Contractor's Fee	23,043	59,715
Volunteer Expenses	-	300
<b>Total Volunteer and employee related costs</b>	<b>189,894</b>	<b>135,222</b>
<b>Costs related to providing goods or services</b>		
Accommodation	22,010	26,182
Transportation	30,914	31,008
Catering	58,900	16,424
AGM Venue	-	14,082
Donation	573	-
Design & prints	10,530	7,641
AGM Koha/Gifts	1,474	1,283
Accounting Fees	2,821	44
Bank Charges	269	135
General Expenses	10,516	8,596
Legal Fees	-	1,171
Insurance	2,211	1,963
Office Equipment < \$100	582	2,875
Bad debts	-	2,986
Marketing & Advertising	3,250	1,642
Printing & Stationery	3,400	2,124
Postage & Shipping	92	253
Professional Fees	12,806	14,983
Rent	16,933	16,000
Telephone, Fax, Internet	1,084	1,324
Website Hosting	720	850
Regional Projects	-	1,150
Computer Repairs & Maintenance	-	743
IT Services & Development	9,211	2,000
Loss on disposal of assets	4	-
<b>Total Costs related to providing goods or services</b>	<b>188,299</b>	<b>155,459</b>
<b>Grants and donations made</b>		
Afghan Community	-	6,978
<b>Total Grants and donations made</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,978</b>
<b>Other expenses</b>		
Audit Fees	1,815	2,430
Depreciation	7,312	7,317





Subscription & Membership Fees	3,171	1,261
<b>Total Other expenses</b>	<b>12,298</b>	<b>11,008</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>390,490</b>	<b>308,667</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>

### 3. Analysis of Assets

<b>Bank accounts and cash</b>		
ASB Society Cheque Account 00	554,771	494,182
ASB Society Business Saver 50	49,582	49,210
Petty Cash	50	50
<b>Total Bank accounts and cash</b>	<b>604,402</b>	<b>543,442</b>
<b>Debtors and prepayments</b>		
Account Receivables	4,075	3,514
<b>Total Debtors and prepayments</b>	<b>4,075</b>	<b>3,514</b>
<b>Other current assets</b>		
Term Deposits	233,563	231,000
<b>Total Other current assets</b>	<b>233,563</b>	<b>231,000</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>

### 4. Analysis of Liabilities

<b>Creditors and accrued expenses</b>		
Payables and Accruals	8,489	4,010
Credit Cards	(405)	(909)
GST	18,864	24,760
<b>Total Creditors and accrued expenses</b>	<b>26,948</b>	<b>27,861</b>
<b>Employee costs payable</b>		
Accrued Annual Leave	3,927	6,356
<b>Total Employee costs payable</b>	<b>3,927</b>	<b>6,356</b>
<b>Unused donations and grants with conditions</b>		
Grants in Adv-MSD	-	89,638
Grants in adv - Human Rights C	-	543
Grants in Adv - Ministry of Culture	-	2,000
Grants in Adv - Auckland Council	-	6,216
Grants in Adv - NZ Police	10,000	18,750
Grants in Adv - Lottery Grants	115,068	166,351
Grants in Adv - Ethnic Communities Development Fund	25,000	9,039
Grants in Adv - DIA	116,187	-
<b>Total Unused donations and grants with conditions</b>	<b>266,255</b>	<b>292,537</b>



	2023	2022
<b>5. Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
<b>Office Furniture</b>		
Opening Cost	8,458	8,458
Purchases	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Current year depreciation	(170)	(215)
Accumulated Depreciation	(7,612)	(7,397)
<b>Total Office Furniture</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>846</b>
<b>Office Equipment</b>		
Opening Cost	39,870	26,249
Purchases	-	13,621
Disposals	(4)	-
Current year depreciation	(7,141)	(7,101)
Accumulated Depreciation	(25,585)	(18,483)
<b>Total Office Equipment</b>	<b>7,140</b>	<b>14,286</b>
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>7,816</b>	<b>15,132</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>

<b>6. Accumulated Funds</b>		
Opening Balance	466,336	301,548
Surplus/(Deficit)	86,392	164,788
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>	<b>552,728</b>	<b>466,336</b>

## 7. Commitments

Commitment	At balance date 2023	At balance date 2022
NZPMC entered into a lease agreement with ACE Aotearoa Focus 2017 for premises at 192 Tinakori Road, Wellington commencing 01 July 2020 and ending 30 June 2023 with a right of renewal for a further three terms of one year each. The annual rental is \$16,359.96 GST exclusive (2022: \$16,000)	\$16,359.96	\$16,000.00

## 8. Contingent Liabilities and Guarantees

There are no contingent liabilities or guarantees as at 31 March 2023 (Last year - nil).

## 9. Related Parties

There were no transactions involving related parties during the financial year. (Last year - nil).

## 10. Events After the Balance Date

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report (Last year - nil).





**11. Ability to Continue Operating**

The entity will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.





## Accounting For Charities Trust

*"Empowering Charities with the knowledge and skills to  
effectively manage their finances with confidence"*

NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF MULTICULTURAL COUNCILS INCORPORATED

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

To the Executive Committee of New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils  
Incorporated

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the performance report of New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated on pages 2 to 22, which comprises the entity information, the statement of service performance, the statement of financial performance and statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 March 2023, the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2023, and the statement of accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying performance report of New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated gives a true and fair view, in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit).

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report* section of our report. We are independent of New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the performance report in *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code)*, and we have fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### **Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Performance Report**

Management is responsible for the preparation of the performance report that give a true and fair view in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit), and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of performance reports that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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In preparing the performance report, management is responsible for assessing the New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the performance report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Incorporated to cease to continue as a going concern.

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We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*Accounting for Charities Trust*  
ACCOUNTING FOR CHARITIES TRUST  
29 August 2023  
Wellington, NEW ZEALAND.

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### **Kōrero awahi**

- Communicate positively
- Act with compassion
- Be courageously honest
- Do what you say

### **Whakapapa**

- Identity, a sense of belonging
- Living a healthy lifestyle
- Commitment & responsibilities
- Future focused
- Know the history

### **Mana / manaki**

- Be the best, expect the best
- Build the mana of others
- Give generously
- Hospitality, second to none



### **Aroha**

- Affection & appreciation
- Loving
- Nurturing
- Total acceptance

### **Whanaungatanga**

- Connected at many levels
- Enjoy being together
- Strong relationships
- Support one another
- Participate in the wider community

### **Tikanga**

- Do what is right
- Keep people safe & protected
- Culturally & spiritually strong
- Knowledge & skill acquisition

Image source: <https://etuwhanau.org.nz/our-values/>



## **Multicultural New Zealand**

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