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Multicultural New Zealand Calls for Peaceful and Respectful Expressions of Dissent

Considering planned upcoming political and social protests across Aotearoa New Zealand by several interest groups, Multicultural New Zealand has issued new guidelines promoting peaceful and respectful expressions of differing viewpoints. The council encourages all community members to exercise civility in public expressions, upholding values that define multicultural Aotearoa New Zealand.

“We stand by peaceful and constructive ways to communicate our concerns,” said Pancha Narayanan, President of Multicultural New Zealand. “Our guidelines ask community members to avoid any actions that could be inflammatory or disrespectful, such as flag burning or acts of religious desecration, which are inconsistent with our values.”

The guidelines emphasise that any member of the public participation in protests should be conducted solely on a personal basis, without implying endorsement from member councils. Council executives choosing to engage in protests are encouraged to step aside temporarily to ensure a clear separation between personal actions and official council stances.

“As Te Tiriti-based multicultural communities, we carry a legacy and international identity rooted in humility and respect,” Mr. Narayanan added. “It is essential that we reflect these values, especially in the public and international eye. Our hope is to foster constructive and respectful dialogue during these times of heightened sensitivity.” Multicultural New Zealand aims to encourage thoughtful and peaceful expression, affirming its commitment to unity and respect.

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