



**VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
MULTICULTURAL ISSUES NETWORK**

## ***PRELIMINARY PROGRAM***

### ***Hope for Harmony***

*promoting social cohesion while responding to racism at the local level*

### **VLGMIN Annual Forum 2019**

On 26 September, the City of Bendigo is hosting the VLGMIN forum at The Capital, a grand, National Trust-listed Victorian era building, 50 View Street, Bendigo from 8.30am to 4.00pm.

We know that racism has harmful effects on people and their ability to fully participate in society. The Victorian Local Government Multicultural Issues Network (VLGMIN) 2019 Forum will explore how far we have progressed in our combined efforts to understand and respond to racism at the individual, community and local government levels.

The VLGMIN forum is designed to provide a safe environment where the local government sector can define the debilitating effects of racism and explore effective strategic action.

Come along and learn, network, compare – we plan to make this forum interesting, informative with at least one surprise to stimulate you. We hope to have a bit of fun during the day as well.

**Proudly sponsored by the Victorian Equal Opportunity & Human Rights Commission**



**Victorian Equal Opportunity  
& Human Rights Commission**



**VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
MULTICULTURAL ISSUES NETWORK**

**Preliminary Program**

<b>8.30-12.30pm</b>	<b>Morning Sessions</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>
8.30am	Arrival/coffee/tea and registration	VLGMIN Executive members
9.00am	Forum Opening and Housekeeping	Facilitator
9.10am	Welcome by Organisers	VLGMIN Chairperson
9.15am	Welcome to Country	Dja Dja Wurrong Clan Aboriginal Corporation representative
9.20am	Official Opening by Bendigo Mayor	Cr Margaret O'Rourke
9.30am	Address by Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission	Ms Kristen Hilton VEOHRC Commissioner
9.45am	Address by Hon Richard Wynne, Minister for Multicultural Affairs OR Mr Josh Bull MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs	Hon Richard Wynne, Minister for Multicultural Affairs
10.05am	Keynote Address by Nyadol Nyuon Award winning and regular media commentator on race and racism	Ms Nyadol Nyuon Lawyer, community activist
10.45am	Slam poetry performance by Anisa Nandaula Nationally recognised spoken word poet, play writer, educator and published author	Anisa Nandaula
<b>11.00-11.15am</b>	<b>Morning tea break</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
11.15-12.15pm	<b>Panel of Insight</b> 4 expert panellists will discuss the question: <i>What is the extent of racism and in our society, what are the broad societal and individual impacts and what institutional structures contribute to the problem and/or impede solutions. Does local government have a mandate or responsibility to pursue anti-racism strategies?</i>	Facilitated by Professor Karen Farquharson, Head of the School of Social and Political Sciences and Professor of Sociology at the University of Melbourne
<b>12.15-1.15pm</b>	<b>Lunch Break + 10 minutes to move to afternoon session</b>	
<b>1.15-3.30pm</b>	<b>Afternoon Sessions</b>	<b>Session 1</b>
<b>1.15 -1.30pm</b>	Lightening Talks 2 minutes x 6 workshop convenors	
1.30-2.30pm	Workshop 1 convenor: Angela Costi VEOHRC in collaboration with local government embarks on digital strategies and innovative engagement to address racism within African and Muslim communities. Incorporating the AHRC Adam Goodes story Campaign	Presented by Angela Costi, Senior Advisor Information & Engagement and Rana Ebrahimi, Senior Project Adviser, VEOHRC as lead agency
	Workshop 2 convenor: Zuleika Arashiro Participants will brainstorm actions that local councils across the state can take to engage with ECCV's 'Better Together' anti racism campaign. Key	Presented by Zuleika Arashiro, Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV) as lead agency



## VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT MULTICULTURAL ISSUES NETWORK

	areas will be economic participation and cross-cultural community relationships.	
	Workshop 3 convenor: Petr Svoboda Research informing our response to racism in our workplace, community and society. This workshop will bring together three expert researchers who will present relevant research insight that could inform responses to racism at the local level within our organisations, our local communities and in the border Australian society	Professor Karen Farquharson, Head of the School of Social and Political Sciences and Professor of Sociology at the University of Melbourne  Dr Brigid Trenerry, Social science researcher based in Singapore  Doug Cronin, facilitator and researcher of ethical storytelling
	<b>10 minutes to move between sessions</b>	
<b>2.40pm -3.30pm</b>	<b>Afternoon Sessions</b>	<b>Session 2</b>
	Workshop 4 convenor: Jac Torres-Gomez This workshop will discuss the Regional Strategic Partnership Network and Community Harmony Project, and how these projects are proactively responding to fear-based politics to support community harmony	Nate Perry, Department of Premier and Cabinet  Phillip Walker, City of Greater Bendigo
	Workshop 5 convenor: Essan Dileri This workshop will address the question “What is the role Intergenerational dialogue can play in confronting racism?”	Presented by City of Greater Dandenong (CGD) and Bendigo Community Health
	Workshop 6 co-convenors: Frances Salenga and Veema Mooniaph This workshop will focus on exploring the range of detrimental health impacts of racism	
3.30-3.45pm	Plenary session via Slido Question: <i>My hope for Harmony is...</i>	Facilitator leading
<b>3.45-4.00pm</b>	<b>Creative Wrap up and CLOSE – Anisa Nandaula</b>	MC leading close
<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Networking over drinks &amp; nibbles</b>	

Proudly hosted by



Supported by

