

# Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Annual Report 2020

[smecc.org.au](https://smecc.org.au)



# Contents

## Table of Contents

Agenda .....	3
President's Report.....	4
Executive Officer's Report .....	5
Treasurer's Report.....	6
Connecting .....	7 - 11
Learning.....	12 - 13
Sharing.....	14 - 16
COVID-19 .....	17 - 18
SMECC on Facebook.....	18
SMECC in the Media.....	19
Board and Staff.....	19
Financial Statements.....	20 - 34
Annual General Meeting Minutes.....	35

# Agenda

## Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Annual General Meeting, Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 5.30pm

Welcome

Acknowledgment of country - President Redgina Balchin

Apologies:

Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting - October 25th, 2019

Motion: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on October 25th, 2019 be accepted as true and correct.

Moved:                      Seconded:

Reports:

President's Report (Redgina Balchin)

Executive Officer's Report (Presented by Joelle Brown on behalf of Dean Wickham)

Treasurer's Report (Catarine Monteleone)

Motion: That the reports be adopted.

Moved:                      Seconded:

Motion: That the financial statements be adopted.

Moved:                      Seconded:

Special Business:

Constitution

Volunteer of the Year

Rebranding

Ramsay Court

New SMECC Executive Officer

Announcement of Board of Management:

President:

Vice President:

Treasurer:

Secretary:

Committee:

Committee:

Committee:

Committee:

Committee:

Meeting Closed:

# President's Report

Kia Ora aku hoa! (Maori - hello my friends!)

It is my pleasure to present Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council (SMECC) 2019-2020 Annual Report.

I'd like to share the wisdom of a Maori proverb (whakatauki) that aptly encapsulates SMECC's 2020 journey -

Whāia te iti kahurangi ki te tūohu koe me he maunga teitei.

The English translation is 'Seek the treasure you value most dearly: if you bow your head, let it be to a lofty mountain.'

This whakatauki encourages us to be persistent and don't let obstacles stop you from reaching your goal. This has acted as a guiding mantra when leading SMECC through the challenges thrust upon us during the unpredictable COVID-19 environment. SMECC have successfully navigated this harrowing journey and achieved the goal of securing \$800,000 funding for the redevelopment of Ramsay Court to provide seasonal worker, short-term and medium-term accommodation. This is great news for SMECC's future as it will provide us revenue to create sustainable change in our community and achieve our mission to facilitate and enable social and economic participation and integration of culturally and linguistically diverse communities within the region.

Although financially SMECC have taken a massive hit over the past three financial years, I am extremely confident that going forward Ramsay Court development will remedy this and place the organisation in a highly desirable financial position. In 2020/2021 SMECC will reap the rewards of the hard yakka staff, volunteers and Board have all contributed to ensure SMECC continues to be the trusted and respected peak multicultural representative organisation in the Northern Mallee Region of Victoria.

The Board have also been successful implementing good governance practices to ensure transparency and accountability which enhances our reputation as ethical agents of positive change. For a couple of years, the Board have been reviewing the Constitution and the final product will be presented at this AGM.

As this is my final year on the Board I would like to personally thank the Board, staff and volunteers over the past 8 years for your commitment to achieving SMECC's vision to be an empowered and harmonious community. Thank you for allowing me to be part of the SMECC whanau (family) and I look forward to the Grand Opening of Ramsay Court in 2021. In parting, I want to assure you that SMECC are not bowing our heads to the lofty mountain, but rather we are the mountain.

Redgina Balchin

# Executive Officer's Report

The 2019/20 year has been one of mixed fortunes for SMECC. We relinquished the refugee resettlement contract, continued our strong partnership with SuniTAFE and ZOE support by delivering a support program to free Tafe students, completed the anti-racism campaign funded by the Australian Multicultural Foundation, commenced a try, test and learn project supporting secondary migration from metro Melbourne, and developed a new strategic plan.

In March 2020, the Covid-19 restrictions impacted our community hub operation and our member groups using the hub. A sad silence fell over our much loved gathering place and our drop in spot, the staff immediately felt the change. This organisation is a source of energy to those who we consider are part of our SMECC family, I felt my energy levels dropping as the familiar faces no longer dropped in to make room bookings or collect food from the Foodshare to give out to community or just to ask a question at reception.

The government directive to work from home had an immediate impact on the staff, we realised that we were not just coworkers but very much a family, we really had to look out for each other. We missed the energy and support we drew from each other. Staff stepped up and online to continue servicing the community, our Playgroup resumed online, Youth group also went online and staff were tasked with conducting welfare checks via phone, Zoom, WhatsApp and Viber applications, and set to work producing translated Covid-19 safe practice resources for local newly arrived CALD community members.

The SMECC Foodshare was called upon to provide support to the state government response to Covid-19 by providing the central distribution point for emergency food packages. The Foodshare staffed by Mildura Rural City Council staff and SMECC volunteers to collect and coordinate food packages for delivery across the local government area will continue to work in to early 2021.

While Covid-19 changed how we worked, it also provided opportunity for SMECC. The Ramsay Court accommodation facility development was fast tracked as an economic stimulus project attracting \$800k state government funding, we hope to see work commence in late 2020. We were also successful in gaining \$360k of working for Victoria funding to employ 8 staff to provide Covid19 recovery services in Mildura, Robinvale and Swan Hill over 6 months. These roles are to assist the community in recovery while also learning from community as to what they learnt throughout the Covid-19 experience and what capacity was built through this crisis.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Programs Manager, Joelle Brown, for her leadership and support of staff during these challenging times. I also thank the staff for following my lead over the years with trust and confidence in me, it has been a privilege to work with you all. I thank the members of the board for the guidance and support for the year and wish you all well going forward.

In diversity is strength.

Dean Wickham

# Treasurer's Report

2019/20 has been a challenging year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council (SMECC) continued to support the community with welfare checks, ensuring communication was relayed in first language to our CALD communities, food relief packages, and relaying daily government communication to ensure the community was aware of the regular developments. With new members joining the board, and the challenges faced in our community with COVID-19, the staff and board collaborated to ensure the staff, community members and clients were safe and following department guidelines.

SMECC increased the number of programs to our community, which has been reflected in our revenue and a decrease in expenditure during the year. 2019/20 has been a challenging year financially, with a deficit of \$232,280; this is a decrease from 2018/19 of \$54,444.

Revenue received in 2020 of \$1,297,228 include Try Test Learn \$236,407, Settlement Engagement Transition Support \$125,019, Strategic Engagement Coordinator \$128,105, Strategic Partnership Program \$177,584, Adult Community and Further Education \$51,698. Other contributing factors include rent received \$70,166, Aged Care Systems Navigator \$58,860, Family Strengthening Project \$30,000, Small Projects \$138,962 and Government subsidies \$145,000.

SMECC's retained earnings of \$3,279,447 shows an increase of \$571,098 from 2019 and continues to drive efficiencies within the business and deliver high levels of service. Assets have increased by 3% and liabilities have reduced by 60% due to the sale of the property at 32 San Mateo Ave.

The financial assistance provided by the government through the Cashflow Boost and the Jobkeeper payment have been paramount in helping our employees retain employment, while they adapted to online methods to continue to provide our services, despite the challenges.

SMECC has been able to also provide valuable services in-kind this year that consisted of translations, hosting functions including providing assistance to external and visiting services from other regions, supporting researchers to interview CALD community members, and providing a space for information sessions by various stakeholders.

The completion of phase 1 of Ramsay Court redevelopment earning rent has provided some assistance in the maintenance of the building; while the successful outcome of the government grant of \$800,000 will help carry out works for the next phase that we envisage will be completed by next year. This milestone will contribute to achieving our goals of providing accommodation to seasonal workers within the region.

Catarine Monteleone



## Playgroups



SMECC multicultural playgroups aim to provide a valuable social connection for women and their children in a safe and welcoming environment. In conjunction with Mildura Rural City Council, the playgroup environment also allows for the sharing of information related to the health and wellbeing of women and children. SMECC playgroups help transition new arrival families into the mainstream service system thus, preparing families for early childhood services and education.

In January this year, we trialed a Men's and bubs Playgroup. This was well attended by three regular Fathers and their children. Our Congolese Men's worker, worked alongside our Family Strengthening Project worker to facilitate these sessions.

In April this year our playgroups moved to online delivery due to COVID-19 restrictions. Our families have embraced the new Zoom meeting technology and continue to engage online with our Playgroup facilitator.

Playgroup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 55 Enrolled</li><li>• Average 30 Mums, 42 Children</li></ul>
Dad's Playgroup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6 Enrolled</li><li>• Average 3 Dads, 5 Children</li></ul>

Participants: Afghan, Congolese, Burundian, Malaysian and Vietnamese

## Women's Only Swim Sessions

A partnership was created with Aligned leisure to provide Female only swim sessions. This allows all women to gain confidence in the water whilst feeling safe.



Average 10 people  
per session



## Youth Programs

Our youth programs are varied and ever changing. We support youth groups targeted at boys, girls and combined. The youth programs encourage social participation and cater to a wide variety of interests and needs. This year most youth identify as Afghani or Congolese. Some of the activities include; Arts and Crafts; Cooking; Sports; Movies; Bowling; Swimming; Bush walking; Games; Car washing; Henna painting; Markets (Desserts and Henna); tours; Information Sessions and Homebase



Hoops basketball tournaments. Covid -19 restrictions meant that activities changed from April 2020. Our youth workers engaged with our youth through various online platforms, including Zoom and WhatsApp. New activities include: regular welfare checks and homework support.

**11 Events**

Income Generation  
activities

**18 Sessions**

Cooking

**45 Sessions**

General activities

## Men's Program

The men's program is aimed at newly arrived men. One of our Congolese workers coordinates activities that are of interest to the participants. Activities include: BBQ's, swimming; Social activities; Information sessions and excursions. In January we changed this activity to a Men's and Bubs Playgroup.



7 Sessions



Between 3 and 8  
participants/session



Adelaide Trip:  
14 participants

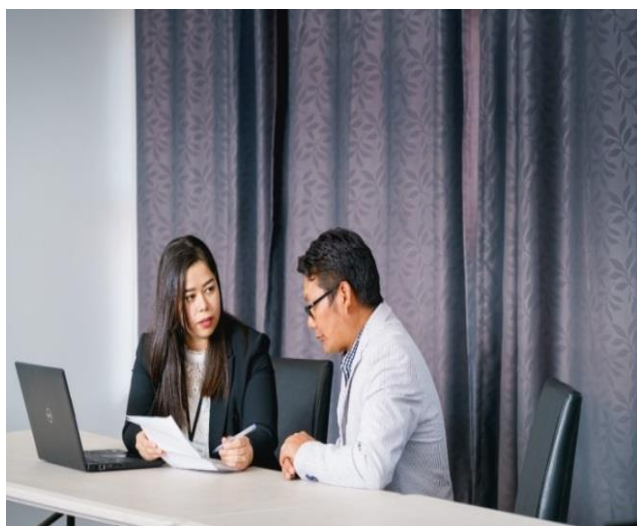


## Swan Hill – Flexible Funds

SMECC partner with Mallee Family Care in Swan Hill to provide services to local CALD residents. These funds are used in a variety of ways. Playgroup activities ceased in March due to Covid-19 restrictions. Multicultural Playgroups run for up to 40 sessions per year (not held out of school term)

Program	Weekly Average Attendance
Swimming Program	13 women
Gentle exercise Program	6 women
Yoga Sessions	11 women
Multicultural Playgroups	12 women and 5 children

## Settlement, Engagement and Transition Support



The Settlement, Engagement and Transition Support (SETS) program provides range of activities for newly arrived community members who have lived in Australia between 6 months - 5 years, and who have limited English language skills. SETS aims to equip humanitarian entrants and other vulnerable migrants, including youth, with the knowledge and skills to identify, understand and take action to address their identified settlement needs. The program has a focus on social and economic participation that includes education and employment. Since COVID-19, most of our services have been conducted online or via the phone.

### Mildura & Swan Hill

214 Clients

Most Common nationalities serviced:

Afghan, Pakistani, Vietnamese, Burundian, Sri Lankan, Congolese, Iraqi, Iranian, Indian, Malaysian, Filipino, Fijian.

Most common queries:

Citizenship applications, housing applications, public housing forms, referrals, advocacy and filling in forms.

## Strategic Engagement Coordination

Our Strategic Engagement Coordinator (SEC) identifies opportunities and develops strategic partnerships with communities, community organisations, service providers, government departments and other stakeholders across the Mallee region and other parts of Victoria. These linkages strengthen community engagement, social inclusion, economic participation and settlement outcomes for groups living in the Mallee.

Some activities conducted this year include:

- Facilitate ongoing dialogue and collaboration with local communities, funded agencies, service providers, other non-government organisations and the three levels of government;
- Work to ensure strengthened and better coordinated support of existing programs (all local services provide to local New & Emerging Community Groups by multiple agencies), by gaining a better understanding of the needs and concerns of each community, gaps in support and points of duplication;
- Developing formalised partnerships and interagency arrangements to address gaps and provide more coordinated and holistic support;
- Ensure strong communication with the Multicultural Affairs and Social Cohesion Division (MASC) of Department of Premier and Cabinet, to strengthen policy advice, service gaps and improve programmatic coordination.

## SMECC Guide – Transport App

The SMECC guide continues to assist new arrival clients navigate Sunraysia's public transport system.

212 | 164  
sessions | users



## Sunraysia Multicultural Festival

Unfortunately, our Multicultural Festival planned for June 2020 was cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We look forward to hosting an event in the 2021 calendar year.



## Try, Test and Learn – Regional Migration

Try, Test and Learn (TTL): A Bridge to Regional Employment and Opportunities is a program designed to facilitate the resettlement of families, from Metropolitan Melbourne to regional areas in the Loddon Mallee area. The program was launched in July 2019 and SMECC implemented their own Regional Migration Coordinator in November 2019.

The program has successfully resettled 3 families from Melbourne, of which all still reside in Mildura. The first family, are a Tibetan family of 4. Both parents are employed full time and the siblings are engaged in the education sector in Mildura. The remaining two families are Haka Chin. Both families have settled in well. The adult males are brothers and have been gainfully employed in the agricultural sector. All school age children have successfully transitioned in local schools.



The TTL program is currently working with 3 new Tibetan families who are all keen on relocating to Mildura.

## Aged Care System Navigator



The Aged Care System Navigator Trial is delivered by SMECC as part of a consortium led by COTA Australia. Funded by the Australian Government, SMECC is one of 30 organisations to take part in the trial. SMECC provide an Information Hub service in both Mildura and Swan Hill. Our service assists individuals to access information and guide people through the Australian Governments *My Aged Care* system.

Activities include; distribution of information, seminars, outreach activities, individual service provision, and network meetings.



## Driving Program

The SMECC Learner Driver Program provides an opportunity for newly arrived community members to gain valuable driving experience with a volunteer driver mentor. SMECC provides a dual-control vehicle to all learner drivers at a low rate. Our partners, Roadsafes Mildura, Mildura Driving School and Mildura Police assist by providing training to mentors, and driver safety education sessions to clients. The program ceased in March this year due to government restrictions around COVID-19.



4 Driver education sessions



88 Regular clients



202 Lessons



7 Driver mentors



9 People obtained license



## Family Strengthening Project

Funded by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Family Strengthening Project has been running since April 2019. The project aims to promote respectful relationships through the promotion of human rights and gender equality, to local CALD community groups. In addition, our Family Strengthening Project worker has delivered family violence specific cultural competency training to a range of local services.

*The project has been delivering sessions to members of the community. These sessions include: What is Family Violence & law; Respectful Relationships, and Gender equality*



## Adult Community Further Education (ACFE)

ACFE classes assist people from a CALD background to improve their English reading, writing and speaking. This year we ran regular English language and digital literacy classes. We also started a brand new Conversation Café class in January 2020. This class was very popular prior to the COVID-19 restrictions. The students have continued to engage in online learning through WhatsApp with our training lead.



34

Enrolled

90

Session

## Cultural Competency Training

We continue to deliver a fee-for-service cross cultural training program for people from different services, groups or business. This training is aimed at supporting our local community to develop the knowledge and skills to effectively support and engage people from non-English speaking backgrounds.

8

Trainings

93

Participants





## Foodshare

The Community Foodshare project is aimed at supporting distribution of local and interstate fruit and vegetables. Food is provided to local school breakfast programs, soup kitchens and welfare agencies that then pass the food on to those in need. SMECC works closely with Foodbank South Australia on this project, who provides significant support from their Berri facility.



## SecondBite

**S**econdBite works with over 1200 community food programs across Australia to redistribute rescued food to those who need it most. SMECC have partnered with SecondBite to provide this service to local organisations who provide food programs and/or redistribute food themselves. In addition, the SecondBite program distributes food to our local Refugee and Asylum Seeker communities. SecondBite began at SMECC in May 2019 and has already provided much needed relief to many organisations and clients.

Foodshare	SecondBite
18 Organisations collect on a regular basis	26 Organisations collect on a regular basis
Food in: 50 Pallets fruit/veg	Food in: 219 collections and 11,217 kg of food collected by SMECC volunteers from the local Supermarket,
Food out: 183 collections by organisations	Food out: 183 collections by organisations; 122 collections by refugee clients.



# Volunteers

Volunteering at SMECC has increased significantly in the last financial year. Many of our programs rely on, and benefit enormously from the contribution that volunteers provide. Our volunteers consist of many individuals who come with a range of experiences and skills including, newly arrived clients. We have volunteers who mentor our learner drivers; assist with Playgroup; assist with filling in forms; help in English language classes; pick up for the SecondBite program; maintain the SMECC grounds; support clients; provide bi-lingual support; work within the Aged Care Navigator trial and help out with youth activities and projects.

## Our Volunteers

Abdul Yaweri : SecondBite  
Benedict Baraka: SecondBite & Language Support  
Carole Smith: Childcare for ACFE  
Christie Centre – Kim: SecondBite  
Jayden Kamleswaran Chinniah: SecondBite  
Jean Paul Birama: Driving Mentor  
JeanPaul Nzeyimana: Driving Mentor  
Joselyne Ntahomvukiye: Driving Mentor  
Karen Leslie: Playgroup, SecondBite & General Admin  
Leonard Twagirayesu: Cleaning outdoor  
Livia Naucukidi – General Admin  
Mahtab Mohammadi : Playgroup & Language Support  
Michael Mack: Driving Mentor  
Pickering Melika: SecondBite  
Ruta Minde: Client Service  
Valerie Yumunino: Language support & SecondBite  
Michael Hoare: Driving mentor  
Saima Rezayi: Playgroup & Client support

Sultani Nazdana: Youth weekend  
Melissa Powell: Driving Mentor  
Mirka McErlean: Wednesday Playgroup  
Gin Sian Dal: Mechanic  
Denise Knight: English Café  
Kim McGrath: English Café  
Nelly Samandari: English café  
Jenny Deboo: English café  
Rick Hlasny: English Café  
Doug Harry: English Café  
Rowena Keenan: English Café  
Debra James: English Café  
Shafura Redway: English café  
Chrissy Pall: English Café  
Helen Treacy: English Café  
Jasmine Stephens (Teacher): English Café  
Gunnar Froiland: English café  
Hannah Sycamore: FoodBank

The Volunteer of the year for FY 2019/20 is Karen Leslie. Karen has been volunteering since 2018 and she has contributed 208 hours this financial year.

## In Memory

It is with great sadness that we said goodbye to two of our wonderful Volunteers, Ruta Minde and Gunnar Froiland.

Ruta volunteered for SMECC for 3 years. She assisted our clients in many ways including, filling in forms and applying for citizenship.

Gunnar Froiland volunteered for SMECC for a year and worked with our youth, teaching Chess. In more recent times, Gunnar volunteered in our Conversational English class.

We also said goodbye this year to Emily Seymour. Emily completed her 14 week 3rd year Social Work placement at SMECC in 2017. Whilst at SMECC, Emily completed a very comprehensive research project looking at local CALD data collection.

Our deepest condolences go out to Ruta, Gunnar and Emily's families. They are sincerely missed by all of their SMECC family.

# Partnerships

SMECC continues to work with a range of external agencies to help provide effective supports to our CALD communities. Oftentimes, SMECC will provide background support to other agencies who support our New and Emerging Community (NEC) groups. Partnerships this year have included:

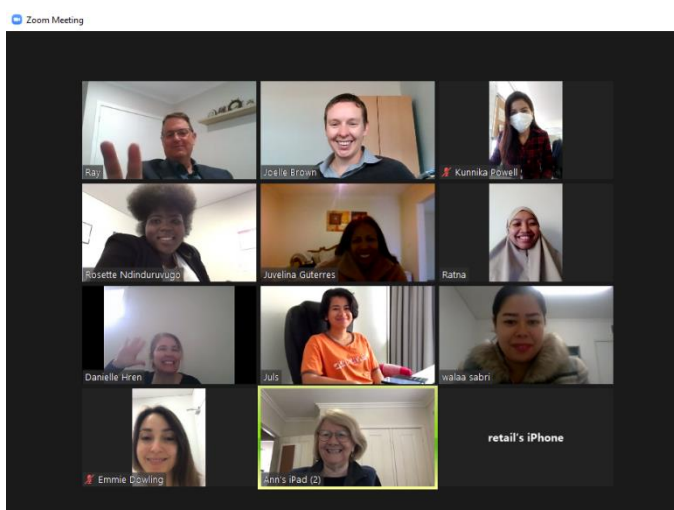
- Sunraysia Community Health Service: Support for the School breakfast program, Refugee Health Nurse, health sessions and Respectful Relationships sessions.
- Mildura Rural City Council: Jobs Victoria Employment Network (JVEN), Maternal & Child Health services, Small Talk Playgroup and Food relief.
- Murray Mallee Community Legal Service: Support for victims of Family Violence and law related Information sessions.
- RoadSafe Mildura: Driving education sessions and supports.
- Diversitat, LCMS Inc, BRMC: SETS Consortium.
- La Trobe University, Research Partnership: Pasifika role model website project.
- Hands Up Mallee: Home Base Hoops; and Local Drug Action Team.
- AMES Australia: Delivered the Humanitarian Settlement Program from the SMECC office until January 2020.

Our other key Stakeholders and Partners, include:

- Mildura English Language Centre (MELC)
- Mallee Sexual Assault Unit & Mallee Domestic Violence Unit
- Victoria Legal Aid
- Ethnic Communities Council Victoria (ECCV)
- Multicultural Centre for Women's Health
- Rights Information and Advocacy (RIAC)
- Aligned Leisure (Mildura Waves)
- Mildura Regional Development
- Sunassist
- The Professionals
- SuniTafe
- Three for All Foundation
- Australian Multicultural Foundation
- Victoria Police
- Department of Justice
- Spectrum
- Head Space
- Christie Centre
- Intouch
- Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia
- Zoe Support



## SMECC during COVID-19



Returning to work after our Christmas break we could have never anticipated what was to come. We had only just recommenced our regular activities when the COVID-19 Pandemic began. Gradually throughout the month of March events and gatherings slowly ceased including, Harmony Week. It was on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March after an announcement from Prime Minister Scott Morrison, that we had to make the decision to close the office and send the team home to work. Whilst the office remained closed for the rest of the financial year, this didn't stop the SMECC team from working with our community. The team spent their time

translating information, making videos, conducting welfare checks and helping other organisations respond to the COVID crisis. We soon began connecting via Zoom on a daily basis. This became an important part of everyone's daily routine as the uncertainty of what was going to happen was challenging for everyone. It soon became evident that many community members were challenged by the use of the digital technologies required to engage in online activities. The SMECC team spent their days providing assistance and training to each and every client so that they could participate in activities such as Online Playgroups and Youth activities. Our Youth workers also supported parents with the home schooling their children.

A partnership with MRCC for emergency food relief was quickly established in response to COVID-19. Our Food Bank and Secondbite programs were quickly expanded with coordination assistance provided by MRCC. We continue to monitor each and every development as it comes and adjust our activities accordingly, in the hope that we can one day resume face to face service and activities.

### COVID-19 Response - Provision of Information to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Facebook posts x 33. People Reached- 20,716; Engaged -2018; Likes -333; Shares- 163.

Videos in LOTE x 13

Verbal Information and Written communication x 706

Communication using socials x 1378 messages

Clients assisted x 348

## Covid-19 Response to Food Relief



SMECC and Mildura Rural City Council teamed up to provide a coordinated response to the provision of food, throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic. MRCC have been able to attend to and monitor food preparation and delivery throughout this time.

Food Parcels distributed from April until June 2020:

**427**  
Parcels

## Service during COVID-19

Virtual Playgroup:



Average 30 clients



33 Sessions

Client assistance:

Assisted to learn a new technology  
to allow for community  
engagement

**78 Clients**

Home schooling assistance

**24 Clients**

One on one welfare checks  
conducted

**403 Checks**

Assistance to other organisations:

**56 Assists**

## SMECC on Facebook

**1,901**

Total Page Followers

**1,877**

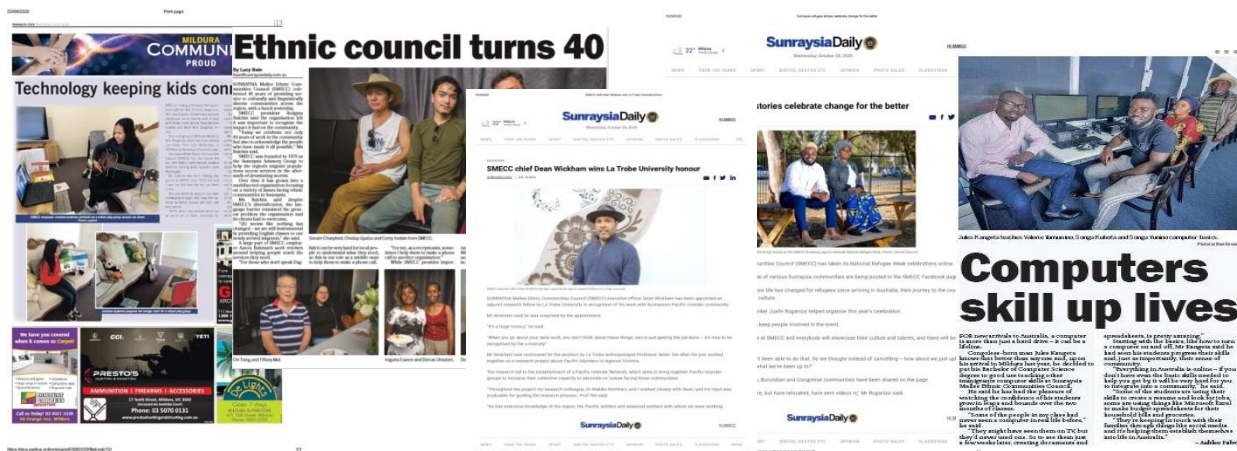
Total Page Likes

**30,170**

Total People Reached



# SMECC in the Media



## SMECC Board

- President - Redgina Balchin
- Vice President - Ian Japp
- Treasurer - Catarine Monteleone
- Secretary - Pamela Bibby
- Board Member - Aloysius Kamara
- Board Member - Daniel Whitford
- Board Member - Nina Smart
- Board Member - Shiva Neiker
- Board Member - Garth Boyd

## SMECC Staff

- Executive Officer - Dean Wickham (Solomon Islands)
- Program Manager - Joelle Brown (Australia)
- Finance & Administration Officer - Julyn Chan (Sri Lanka)
- Executive Assistant - Ratna Dwi Savitri (Indonesia)
- Reception/ Administration Assistant - Rosette Ndinduruvugo (Burundi)
- Reception/ Administration Assistant - Aaron Abdul Rahman (Malaysia)
- Regional Migration Coordinator - Corey Iredale (Australia)
- Client Services Worker and Aged Care Systems Navigator Worker - Walaa Sabri (Iraq)
- Client Engagement Worker - Nerqus Zahidi (Afghanistan)
- Community Programs Coordinator - Juvelina Guterres (Timor Leste)
- Community Support Worker - Mahnaz Mohammadi (Afghanistan)
- Community Support Worker - Juslin Ruganiza (Congo)
- Playgroups Assistant - Jean Reed (Australia)
- Creche Worker - Melanie Payen (Mauritius)
- Strategic Engagement Coordinator - Ray Cadmore (Australia)
- Training Program Lead - Danielle Hren (Australia)
- Sessional ACFE Educator - Susan Howe (Australia)
- Bilingual Support - Sylvana Niragira, Jessica Ngo, Shahida Hussaini



**Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council  
Inc. ABN 37 282 486 762**

**Financial Statements  
For The Year Ended 30 June 2020**

Committee Report

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

Statement of Financial Position Statement of Changes in Funds

Statement of Cash Flows

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements

Committee Statement

Independent Audit Report





**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Your Committee members submit the financial report of Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc. (the Association) for the year ended 30 June 2020.

**Committee Members**

The names of the Committee members throughout the year and at the date of the report are:

Redgina Balchin - President	Ian Japp - Vice President
Catarine Monteleone - Treasurer	Pamela Bibby - Secretary
Katherene Carusella - Treasurer (Resigned)	Paul Zaharias - Secretary (Resigned)
Shiva Neiker	Nina Smart
Garth Boyd	Aloysius Kamara
Daniel Whitford	

**Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:

- To provide direct relief and assistance to emerging communities and refugees in the Sunraysia/Northern Mallee area.

**Significant Changes**

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

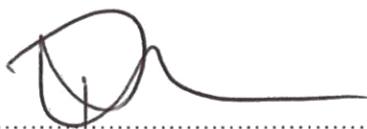
**Operating Result**

The deficit for the year amounted to \$232,280 (2019: \$286,724 deficit).

**Review of Operations**

A review of operations of the association during the financial year identifies a reduction in the deficit. Overall, income increased by 4% which was offset by a 3% decrease in expenditure.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.



Redgina Balchin



Catarine Monteleone

Dated this 23rd day of October 2020

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS & OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Revenue	2	718,813	869,542
Other revenue	2	578,415	382,788
		<b>1,297,228</b>	<b>1,252,330</b>
Administration expense		108,006	106,629
Depreciation		68,606	68,641
Finance costs		20,812	32,234
Motor vehicle expenses		31,168	30,519
Occupancy costs		176,506	292,927
Program costs		75,871	72,961
Employee benefits expense		1,037,592	920,892
Travel expenses		10,947	14,251
		<b>1,529,508</b>	<b>1,539,054</b>
<b>Operating Profit/(Loss) for the year</b>		<b>(232,280)</b>	<b>(286,724)</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>			
Net gain on revaluation of land & buildings		803,378	89,500
Total other comprehensive income for the year		<b>803,378</b>	<b>89,500</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss) for the Year</b>		<b>571,098</b>	<b>(197,224)</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2020**

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	3	261,185	409,664
Trade & Other Receivables	4	33,778	183,060
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		294,963	592,724
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, Plant & Equipment	5	3,697,429	3,265,430
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		3,697,429	3,265,430
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		3,992,392	3,858,154
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	6	227,904	451,497
Provisions	7	97,230	62,775
Financial Liabilities	8	70,200	84,240
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		395,334	598,512
<b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	7	10,413	8,607
Financial Liabilities	8	307,198	542,686
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		317,611	551,293
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		712,945	1,149,805
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		3,279,447	2,708,349
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Reserves	9	2,324,449	1,521,071
Retained Earnings		954,998	1,187,278
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		3,279,447	2,708,349

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

	Note	Retained Earnings	Asset Revaluation Reserve	TOTAL
		\$	\$	\$
<b>Balance at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018</b>		1,474,002	1,431,571	2,905,573
Loss for the Year		(286,724)	-	(286,724)
Total other comprehensive income		-	89,500	89,500
<b>Balance at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>		1,187,278	1,521,071	2,708,349
Loss for the Year		(232,280)	803,378	571,098
Total other comprehensive income		-	-	-
<b>Balance at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020</b>		<b>954,998</b>	<b>2,324,449</b>	<b>3,279,447</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from grants & customers		1,444,511	1,156,312
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,627,422)	(1,132,758)
Finance costs		(20,812)	(32,234)
Interest received		1,999	6,922
<b>Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities</b>	10	(201,724)	(1,758)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		357,239	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(54,466)	(9,612)
<b>Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities</b>		302,773	(9,612)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Repayment of borrowings		(249,528)	(50,818)
Proceeds from borrowings		-	-
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		(249,528)	(50,818)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(148,479)	(62,188)
Cash at beginning of financial year		409,664	471,852
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	3	<b>261,185</b>	<b>409,664</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

**Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies**

These financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Victoria. The Committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of these financial statements. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

**a. Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)**

Plant and equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation. The depreciable amount of all plant and equipment is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

**b. Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

**c. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

**d. Revenue and Other Income**

Grants received on the condition that specified services are delivered, or conditions are fulfilled, are considered reciprocal. Such grants are initially recognised as a liability and revenue is recognised as services are performed or conditions fulfilled. Revenue from non-reciprocal grants is recognised when the Association obtains control of the funds.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

**e. Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

**f. Comparatives**

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year where required by accounting standards or as a result of a change in accounting policy.



**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

**Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**g. Key Estimates**

*Impairment*

The Association assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluation of conditions and events specific to the group that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using value-in-use calculations which incorporate various key assumptions.

**h. New Accounting Standards for Application in Future Periods**

The AASB has issued new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods and which the Association has decided not to early adopt. The Association does not expect that these changes will have a material effect on its financial statements.

**i. COVID-19 Impact**

Australia has experienced significant changes to the societal and economic environment due to the global pandemic caused by the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The outbreak of COVID-19 created highly uncertain circumstances for households, businesses, community and governments.

Whilst the impact of these measures is not expected to have a material impact on the financial statements and accompanying notes, the association will identify where appropriate any impacts or items which require significant judgement or estimation in deriving item balances.

Where the association believes a material impact is likely as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, it will include details of the possible impact and provide COVID-19 updated figures or estimates where appropriate.

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>NOTE 2: REVENUE</b>		
<b>Revenue</b>		
Try Test Learn	236,407	64,262
Humanitarian Settlement Program	-	169,967
Status Resolution Support Services	-	37,481
Settlement Services	-	96,429
Settlement Engagement Transition Support	125,019	67,405
Strategic Engagement Coordinator	128,105	140,000
Strategic Partnership Program	177,584	230,000
Adult Community & Further Education	51,698	57,998
Mildura Rural City Council	-	6,000
	<b>718,813</b>	<b>869,542</b>

<b>Other Revenue</b>		
Interest Received	1,999	6,922
Accommodation Support Recoupments	37,523	51,219
AMES Office Rental	37,012	43,943
Rent Received	62,539	126,501
CBP Family Strengthening	30,000	60,000
Ramsay Rent	33,154	-
Sunraysia Multicultural Festival	20,000	20,000
Antiracism Project	-	20,000
Aged Care Systems Navigator Trial	58,860	22,890
Small Projects Income	138,962	5,864
ATO Cash Flow Boost	62,500	-
Job Keeper Payments	82,500	-
Other Income	13,366	25,449
	<b>578,415</b>	<b>382,788</b>
	<b>1,297,228</b>	<b>1,252,330</b>

**NOTE 3: CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS**

Cash on Hand	100	438
Cash at Bank	163,303	283,176
Term Deposits	97,782	126,050
	<b>261,185</b>	<b>409,664</b>

**NOTE 4: TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES**

Trade Debtors	7,978	141,490
Accrued Income	13,215	-
Prepayments	12,405	23,055
Other Receivables	180	18,515
	<b>33,778</b>	<b>183,060</b>

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>NOTE 5: PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>		
Land @ Valuation	<u>1,065,000</u>	-
Buildings @ Cost	<u>2,575,000</u>	-
Land & Buildings		
At Independent Valuation 2017	-	3,150,000
At Cost	-	153,785
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-</u>	<u>(97,380)</u>
	-	<b>3,206,405</b>
Motor Vehicles At Cost	92,008	92,007
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(77,545)</u>	<u>(72,723)</u>
	<b>14,463</b>	<b>19,284</b>
Plant & Equipment At Cost	177,293	161,828
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(134,327)</u>	<u>(122,087)</u>
	<b>42,966</b>	<b>39,741</b>
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	<u><b>3,697,429</b></u>	<u><b>3,265,430</b></u>

**Asset Revaluations**

The freehold land & buildings were independently valued at 30 June 2020 by WBP Property Group.

**a. Movements in carrying amounts**

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant & equipment between beginning and the end of the current financial year.

	Land & Buildings	Motor Vehicles	Plant & Equipment	Total \$
		\$	\$	
Opening Balance	3,206,405	19,284	39,741	3,265,430
Additions	39,000	-	15,466	54,466
Disposals	- 357,239			-357,239
Revaluations	803,378			803,378
Depreciation Expense	<u>(51,544)</u>	<u>(4,821)</u>	<u>(12,241)</u>	<u>(68,606)</u>
Closing Balance	3,640,000	14,463	42,966	3,697,429

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>NOTE 6: PAYABLES</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Trade Payables	(410)	56,606
Accrued Expenses	23,852	23,863
GST Payable	11,639	8,663
Payroll Liabilities	7,965	9,864
Other Payables	184,858	352,501
	<u><b>227,904</b></u>	<u><b>451,497</b></u>

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>NOTE 7: PROVISIONS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Annual Leave	57,347	28,119
Long Service Leave	39,883	34,656
	<b>97,230</b>	<b>62,775</b>
<b>NON CURRENT</b>		
Long Service Leave	10,413	8,607
	<b>10,413</b>	<b>8,607</b>
	<b>107,643</b>	<b>71,382</b>

**NOTE 8: FINANCIAL LIABILITIES**

<b>CURRENT</b>		
Bendigo Bank Loan (107 Twelfth Street)	23,400	36,400
Bendigo Bank Loan (32 San Mateo Avenue)	-	18,200
Bendigo Bank Loan (Ramsay Court)	46,800	29,640
	<b>70,200</b>	<b>84,240</b>
<b>NON CURRENT</b>		
Bendigo Bank Loan (107 Twelfth Street)	112,500	158,635
Bendigo Bank Loan (32 San Mateo Avenue)	-	158,277
Bendigo Bank Loan (Ramsay Court)	194,698	225,774
	<b>307,198</b>	<b>542,686</b>
	<b>377,398</b>	<b>626,926</b>

The bank loans are secured by a first mortgage over the college leasehold properties.  
Due to the impact of COVID-19, the association agreed not to make loan repayments with the Bendigo Bank from March 2020 to 30 September 2020. On October 1 2020 \$24,551 in repayments and interest were reinstated onto the loans.

**NOTE 9: RESERVES**

**Asset Revaluation Reserve**

- The asset realisation reserve records revaluations of property, plant & equipment.

**NOTE 10: CASH FLOW INFORMATION**

<b>Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with</b>		
Profit/(Loss)	(232,280)	(286,724)
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating		
Non-cash flows in profit:		
Depreciation	68,606	68,641
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
increase in trade and term debtors	149,282	(89,096)
increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(223,593)	317,335
increase in employee benefits	36,261	(11,914)
	<b>(201,724)</b>	<b>(1,758)</b>

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

**NOTE 11: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

At 30 June 2020 the Committee is unaware of any liability, contingent or otherwise, which has not already been recorded elsewhere in these financial statements.

**NOTE 12: CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

At 30 June 2020 the Committee is unaware of any capital or leasing commitments which have not already been recorded elsewhere in these financial statements.

**NOTE 13: RELATED PARTIES**

There were no related party transactions during the financial year.

**NOTE 14: EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER REPORTING DATE**

Since the date of these financial statements, there have been no events occurring after reporting date which require specific disclosure.

**NOTE 15: ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE**

The association's activities are funded by various state and federal government departments, its core source of revenue is provided by the Department of Premier & Cabinet and the Department of Social Services. At the date of this report, the members of the Committee have no reason to believe that these government departments would not continue to provide financial support to Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc.

**NOTE 16: ASSOCIATION DETAILS**

The principal place of business of the association is:

107-111 Twelfth Street  
MILDURA VIC 3500

**SUNRAYSIA MALLEE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC.**  
**ABN 37 282 486 762**  
**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that these special purpose financial statements should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee the financial report:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc. as at 30 June 2020 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



.....  
Redgina Balchin - President



.....  
Catarine Monteleone - Treasurer

Dated this 23rd day of October 2020



**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SUNRAYSIA MALLEE  
ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC. ABN 37 282 486 762**

**Auditor's Opinion**

The financial report of Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc has been audited. This comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible persons' declaration.

In my opinion, the financial statements of Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council Inc as of 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic).

**Basis for Opinion**

The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statement' section of the report. I am independent of the organisation in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standard Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to the audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

**Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The Committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic) and for such internal control as the responsible persons determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the responsible persons are responsible for assessing the organisation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible persons either intend to liquidate the organisation or to cease operations or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The responsible entities are responsible for overseeing the organisation's financial reporting process.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

The auditor's objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards 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 financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, professional judgement is exercised and professional scepticism is maintained throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial 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 my 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 the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by responsible entities.

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SUNRAYSIA MALLEE  
ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL INC. ABN 37 282 486 762**

- Conclude on the appropriateness of responsible entities' 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 the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I'm required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. Conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with responsible entities regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that are identified during the audit.



Kellie Jane Nulty  
RCA 298704

Dated this 23rd day of October 2020

**Annual General Meeting Minutes 2019  
held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 5.30pm  
at 107–111 Twelfth Street Mildura Vic 3500**

**Welcome**

**Acknowledgement of country** - Vice President Ian Japp

**Present:** Ian Japp, Con Demis, Paul Hogarth, Shiva Neiker, Alkisti Theofelos, Joanna Pappapetrou, Joselyne Ntahomvukiye, Zia Ibrahim, Azizullah Mohammadi, Sayed Abbas Hashimi, Chris Rammos, Katherine Carusella, Lisa-Maree Stevens, Deborah Bogenhuber, Claire Kelly, Walaa Sabri, Joelle Brown, Catarine Monteleone, Nina Smart, Pamela Bibby, Ratna Savitri, Garth Boyd, Jamuna Jackson, Melanie Payen, Aaron Abdul, Juvelina Guterres, Rosette Ndinduruvugo, Matthew Scott, Songa Kubota, Apoline Wangendo, Jessica Ngo, Juslin Ruganiza, Mahnaz Mohammadi, and Dean Wickham.

**Apologies:** Redgina Balchin, Raymond Cadmore, Danielle Hren, Julyn Chan, Jean Reed, Samia Fox, Paul Zaharias, Catherine Thompson, Rachel Kendrigan, Paul Nicolias, Jane McCracken, Tanya Wild, Peter Byrne, Robert Munro, Rohan Shugg, Allison McTaggart, Leo Male and Belinda Hudak.

**Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018**

Motion: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018 be accepted as true and correct.

Moved: Katherine Carusella

Seconded: Zia Ibrahim

**Guest Speaker:**

Mrs. Helen Lee

"Pacific Islanders in regional Victoria: visitors, migrants and overstayers."

**Reports**

President's Report - Ian Japp

Executive Officer's Report - Dean Wickham

Treasurers's Report - Katherine Carusella

Motion: That the reports be adopted.

Moved: Shiva Neiker      Seconded: Con Demis

Motion: That the financial statements be adopted.

Moved: Zia Ibrahim      Seconded: Paul Hogarth

**Special Business:**

No notice of any special business has been given.

**Election of Board of Management:**

Trevor Leighton from the State Electoral Commission was in charge of conducting the election process, in which there are 4 office positions and 5 general members. For the office positions, there was one nomination for each position and the following people were elected.

President: Redgina Balchin

Vice President: Ian Japp

Treasurer: Katherine Carusella

Secretary: Pamela Bibby

There were 6 nominations for the 5 positions, the nominees were; Paul Nicolias, Catarine Monteleone, Paul Hogarth, Nina Smart, Shiva Neiker, and Garth Boyd.

The following were elected;

Committee: Catarine Monteleone

Committee: Paul Hogarth

Committee: Nina Smart

Committee: Shiva Neiker

Committee: Garth Boyd

Trevor declared that all people were duly elected.

Meeting closed 6.35 pm.

[smecc.org.au](https://smecc.org.au)

