

August, 2023

ECCWA.ORG.AU

NEWSLETTER



THE VOICE REFERENDUM 2023

WE PROUDLY SIGNED
THE JOINT
RESOLUTION OF
MULTICULTURAL
AUSTRALIA FOR
VOICE AND
SUPPORTS THE YES23
CAMPAIGN.

**Ethnic
Communities
Council of
Western
Australia**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Ethnic Community Council of WA acknowledges and pays tribute to the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation and their Elders past and present as the Traditional Custodians of the Country (Boodja) on which we work.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Western Australia and recognise their continuing and cultural connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to them, their cultures, and to Elders both past and present.

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President's Address

MAMTA KOCCHAR

KAYA. WANJU.

I would like to start by sharing with you a finding from the Scanlon Foundation's Mapping Social Cohesion 2022 report. The report states that the belief in the positive impact of multiculturalism has never been stronger, with an impressive increase from 77% in 2018 to a remarkable 88% in 2022 among those who agree that 'multiculturalism has been good for Australia'.

This surge in support signifies the collective recognition of the richness and strength that diversity brings to our great nation. Our multicultural identity is an integral part of what makes Australia exceptional. However, the path to social cohesion is an ongoing endeavour, one that requires continuous efforts from all members of our diverse community.

The Multicultural Framework Review being conducted by the Australian government presents a chance for us to voice our opinions and contribute to shaping policies that support and strengthen our vibrant and cohesive multicultural society. Submissions for the Multicultural Framework Review are open from July 24th to September 29th, 2023. ECCWA highly encourages all its members to actively participate in this process. Whether you choose to make a submission directly or through ECCWA, we stand ready to support you in this endeavour. If you wish to submit your views through ECCWA, our dedicated team is here to assist. Please feel free to contact our Executive Officer.



I take this opportunity to also touch on a topic of utmost importance to our nation –the upcoming Indigenous Voice to Parliament referendum. This referendum presents a pivotal moment in our nation's history, a chance to recognize and empower the voices of Australia's First Nations people and embrace a more inclusive and equitable future.

The Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia (ECCWA) firmly stands in support of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament proposal. We believe that this is a critical step towards addressing historical injustices and acknowledging the contribution, wisdom and significance of Australia's First Nations people.

While ECCWA's stance is clear, we also understand the importance of informed decision-making among our valued members. As such, I am pleased to announce that ECCWA will be organizing bi-partisan information sessions in the coming weeks. These sessions will serve as a platform to provide accurate, unbiased information about the Indigenous Voice to Parliament referendum. Our aim is to equip each of you with the knowledge you need to make an informed decision that aligns with your values and beliefs. Thank you for your unwavering support, dedication, and commitment to ECCWA's mission. Together, we continue to move toward an even more harmonious and inclusive Western Australia.

THE VOICE REFERENDUM

YES23

ECCWA proudly signed the Joint Resolution of Multicultural Australia For Voice and supports the #Yes23 Campaign. We're taking action through education, collaboration, and community engagement to recognise First Nations voices in WA. Join us in workshops, forums, and dialogues to foster understanding and unity. Get involved and make a difference!



THE VOICE REFERENDUM

YES23



14TH JULY, 2023

Yes23 campaign coordinators visited ECCWA to discuss the roll out of the campaign targeting CaLD communities.

17TH JULY, 2023

We were privileged to co-host Minister Anne Aly at the Multicultural Services Centre of WA. Her visit was a powerful testament to her commitment to dispelling myths and misinformation surrounding the Voice Referendum. Thank you, Minister Aly, for your unwavering dedication to truth, unity, and inclusivity.



28TH JULY, 2023

Suresh Rajan, was interviewed on WAMN News regarding the Yes Vote and their survey results.



11TH AUGUST, 2023

ECCWA staff and our terrific group of Interns met with the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia and Yes23 folks at a brainstorming session. Top of the agenda were our plans for engaging with CaLD youth regarding the Referendum for a Voice to Parliament.



THE VOICE REFERENDUM

YES23

25TH AUGUST, 2023

The Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia (ECCWA) was honoured to host an event celebrating the arrival of Amar Singh, the esteemed Australian of the Year Local Hero 2023 and President of Turbans 4 Australia. Mr. Singh is on an extraordinary 25,000-kilometre journey around Australia to advocate for the Voice, a cause that resonates deeply with our community.



In addition to Mr. Singh, the event was enriched by the presence of Daniel Morrison-Bird, CEO of Wungening Aboriginal Corporation, renowned for his transformative leadership. We are also profoundly grateful to Daniel's father, Mr. Jim Morrison, a senior Noongar man and a steadfast advocate for Aboriginal advancement. Their attendance was particularly noteworthy as it marked their inaugural joint appearance in support of the Yes 23 Campaign and the Voice to Parliament referendum.

The event was exceptionally well-attended, reflecting the community's keen interest in the advocacy for the Voice and the contributions of the distinguished speakers. The diversity of the attendees underscored the unifying power of such pivotal causes.

We extend our sincere appreciation to WAMN News and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) for their attendance, as their coverage has been pivotal in disseminating the event's key messages and objectives. Further, we express our heartfelt gratitude to all attendees, whose presence indubitably elevated the significance of the occasion. We eagerly anticipate your continued support in future endeavours.



25TH AUGUST, 2023



The Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia (ECCWA) is pleased to share a momentous photograph from the Multicultural Yes 23 WA Launch, held at Boola Katitjin. This event, featuring an array of distinguished speakers and entertainers, was a vibrant celebration of our community's cultural diversity and a forum for meaningful dialogue on the Voice to Parliament. We were particularly honoured by the presence of The Hon Dr Tony Buti MLA, WA Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests. His insights added a layer of depth to the discussions. It was also a

pleasure to see Amar Singh, Australian of the Year (Local Hero), once again gracing an event of such import.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all participants and look forward to the continued momentum this initiative is sure to generate.

In Other News

CALD CANCER RESOURCES PROJECT 2023/2024.



We had the pleasure of collaborating with the wonderful Nadeen Curran from the Health Consumer's Council (HCONC) to discuss the CaLD Cancer Resources Project 2023/2024. Our goal at ECCWA is to empower and support the HCC in working with the CaLD communities. Together, we're striving to understand the unique challenges faced when grappling with a cancer diagnosis and how to disseminate relevant information effectively.

This initiative will see essential resources translated into 6 languages, bridging gaps and ensuring that vital support is accessible to all. Join us in this crucial mission to elevate cancer awareness and foster understanding.

Your support means everything! Email us at admin@eccwa.org.au

HOMELESSNESS WEEK: SPOTLIGHT ON INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN WA

It's crucial to highlight the challenges faced by international students in Western Australia's deepening rental crisis. Currently there are limited affordable housing options, pushing students towards substandard conditions.

Soaring rental costs are making it harder for students to find suitable accommodation. And unfamiliarity with the local rental system is leaving them vulnerable to exploitation.

Let's advocate for enhanced education and resources for international students navigating the rental market along with increased availability of affordable student housing and stricter regulations to prevent exploitative rental practices.

Every student deserves a safe place to live while pursuing their dreams. Let's ensure our international community isn't left behind.

DID YOU KNOW?

Of the total homeless population in Australia, 20% are from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds.

If you or someone you know is facing housing challenges, especially within the CaLD community, reach out. Let's start a conversation and work together to find solutions.

Get Funded

UPCOMING GRANT APPLICATIONS

Join the WA Carers Advisory Council: A Call For New Members

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 4PM, 1ST SEPTEMBER 2023



The Western Australian Carers Advisory Council is extending an invitation for new members to join its ranks. With an estimated 320,000 unpaid carers in the state, the Council's role is not merely advisory but transformative, impacting the lives of a significant portion of the population.

They are particularly interested in applications from individuals who have experience as carers. Special consideration will be given to applicants from Aboriginal or culturally diverse backgrounds, as well as young carers up to the age of 25. Your unique experiences and perspectives are not just welcomed; they are essential for shaping the future of caregiving in Western Australia. To learn more about the application process and to apply, please visit [WA Government Website](#).

Grant Opportunity for Security Enhancements at Faith-Based Locations

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION - 11TH SEPTEMBER 2023, 5:00 PM
(ACT LOCAL TIME)**

The Attorney-General's Department has initiated a grant programme to enhance security at faith-based locations. Eligible religious institutions and community centres may apply for funding ranging from AUD 25,000 to AUD 500,000. The focus is on mitigating risks of crime and violence motivated by religious or racial intolerance. Applications can be submitted online via [this link](#).



International Student Accommodation Subsidy: Round 4, 2023

APPLICATION PERIOD: 28TH AUGUST - 9TH OCTOBER 2023



The Western Australian Government has announced Round 4 of the International Student Accommodation Subsidy for 2023. The subsidy aims to support international students residing in Western Australia. Applications must be complete and decision-ready, submitted online with all required documentation, including evidence of an Australian bank account. Incomplete or incorrect applications will not be assessed. The programme is open to students enrolled in courses of at least two semesters in length, commencing in Semester 2, 2023. [Click here](#) for more information.

Upcoming Events

GET INVOLVED WITH ECCWA

West Australian Community Leaders Referendum Information Session

DATE: 2ND SEPTEMBER 2023 | TIME: 2PM (AWST) | LOCATION: 20 VIEW STREET, NORTH PERTH WA 6005



The Social Policy Group (SPG), in collaboration with the Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia (ECCWA), cordially invites community leaders to an informative session on the upcoming 2023 Referendum. This initiative is part of SPG's engagement with the Australian Electoral Commission to facilitate the electoral participation of multicultural communities.

The session aims to provide community leaders with politically neutral information about the referendum process and the free sessions available in various community languages. The event also serves as a platform to consult community leaders on effective strategies to encourage community participation in the referendum. For queries, please reach out to training@socialpolicy.org.au.

Exclusive Gathering for Community Leaders: Support the Yes 23 Campaign

DATE: 9TH SEPTEMBER 2023 | TIME: 2PM - 5PM | VENUE: 20 VIEW STREET, NORTH PERTH | RSVP BY: 5TH SEPTEMBER 2023, 4:30PM

The Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia (ECCWA) is pleased to extend an invitation for an exclusive gathering of community leaders. The event aims to discuss active support for the Yes 23 Campaign, which seeks constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through the Voice to Parliament.

Esteemed Speakers

- Daniel Morrison-Bird: CEO, Wungening Aboriginal Corporation
- Janine Freeman: Social Equity Advocate
- Sarah Janali: Expert in Multicultural Engagement

Your expertise makes you an invaluable participant for constructive dialogue and strategizing to advance the Yes 23 Campaign. To confirm attendance, email admin@eccwa.org.au.



WA Migration Update 2023: A Confluence of Minds and Ideas

DATE: 8TH SEPTEMBER 2023 | CURTIN UNIVERSITY

The 8th annual WA Migration Update conference is set to be a pivotal event, focusing on the theme 'Beyond Racism: Policy Frameworks for a Diverse Australia'. The conference aims to foster dialogue among academia, communities, the private sector, and government on critical issues surrounding migration and multiculturalism. The Hon Minister Dr Tony Buti will inaugurate the event, featuring speakers from various sectors. We are pleased to announce that Suresh Rajan will be among the speakers. [Event Link](#)

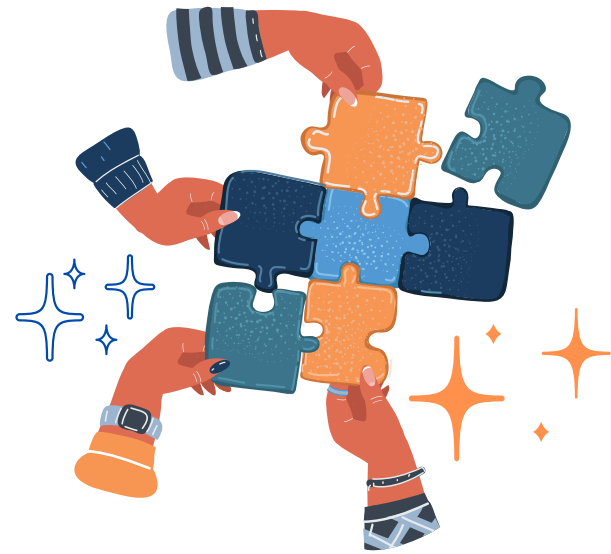


Strategic Plan 2023-2026 Community Network Forum on Roadmap Formulation

DATE: 12TH SEPTEMBER 2023 | TIME: 5:00PM – 07:30PM

The Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia (ECCWA) cordially invites its esteemed members to participate in the upcoming Community Network Forum.

This pivotal gathering aims to discuss and refine the ECCWA Strategic Plan for 2023–2026. On 26th February 2023, ECCWA successfully convened a Community Network Forum, where invaluable insights were gathered from various ethnic communities. These insights have been instrumental in formulating our Strategic Plan for 2023–2026. The Office of Multicultural Interests provided a grant, enabling the hiring of a consultant to compile a comprehensive report.



The forum aims to engage members in a constructive dialogue to provide feedback on the Strategic Plan and assist in formulating a Roadmap for its successful implementation. Your insights and feedback are crucial for the collective advocacy and strategic direction of ECCWA. This is an unparalleled opportunity to contribute to a cause that impacts the well-being of ethnic communities across Western Australia.

To confirm your and your community's attendance, please respond at your earliest convenience to admin@eccwa.org.au with any dietary requirements you may have.



Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SREEKRISHNA JANMASHTAMI

DATE: 9TH SEPTEMBER 2023

TIME: 9AM - 12PM

VENUE: PERTH HINDU TEMPLE, 271 WARTON ROAD, CANNING VALE

ORGANISER: SAMSKRUTHI PERTH

EXPO FOR SENIORS AND CARERS

DATE: 15TH SEPTEMBER 2023

TIME: 10AM - 1PM

VENUE: CHUNG WAH CULTURAL CENTRE, 18 RADALJ PLACE, BALCATT

COST: FREE

FLAMENCO SOIREE

DATE: 24TH SEPTEMBER 2023

TIME: 5PM - 7PM

VENUE: HILLVIEW INTERCULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTRE, 1-3 HILL VIEW PLACE, BENTLEY

COST: \$10

MIGRANT AND REFUGEE HEALTH TRAINING

DATE: 26TH SEPTEMBER 2023

TIME: 9AM - 12PM

VENUE: 372 BAGOT ROAD, SUBIACO

ORGANISER: DEPARTMENT OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

TIMELESS INDIA

DATE: 29TH SEPTEMBER 2023

TIME: 7PM - 9PM

VENUE: KINGSWAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, 157 KINGSWAY, DARCH

ORGANISER: SARASWATI MAHAVIDHYALAYA INSTITUTE

PASIFIKA FESTIVAL WA 2023

DATE: 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

TIME: 1PM - 8PM

VENUE: 322 BENARA ROAD, BEECHBORO

COST: FREE



VOTE YES!



Yes23
.com.au



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Contact Us



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