

C.A.L.D. TALK

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER OF THE ILLAWARRA ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL

Chairperson's Address

April 09

Chairperson's Address p1

Aged Care Division

Seniors Week Multicultural Luncheon p2

Wheels to Meals Luncheon

Information Session for aged care service providers

In Home Social Support

Youth and Arts Division

Links to Learning

MYDP Report p3

Multicultural Arts

Kids Making Choices

Contact Us

Community Announcements p4

Once again it is my pleasure to welcome all of our members and stakeholders to the second edition of CALD Talk for 2009. I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all your positive feedback and tremendous support over the years. The IECC is here because of you and we will always be here advocating, lobbying for and supporting our Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities in the Illawarra region.

I am truly honoured and privileged to report that last month **Mr John Papakosmas, IECC Vice Chair, was awarded the "2009 NSW Seniors Week Achievement Awards" from the Honourable Paul Lynch MP, Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs for his over 50 years outstanding community service. John has a history of contribution in the Illawarra and he is one of the founding members of IECC and Migrant Heritage Project.** Congratulations to John for a well deserved award and it is an honour to work alongside such a dedicated and humble volunteer on the IECC Management Committee.

I am also pleased to report that the IECC will start a new **Serbian Day Care in Wollongong in May 2009** and I would like to welcome each and every one of the Serbian community to the IECC. The IECC has been successful in serving our CALD communities in the Illawarra because we have been listening and understanding the diversity of the Cultural and Linguistic needs of our clients. Through our involvement and work with all communities in the Illawarra, we are able to better serve the needs of our Culturally and Linguistically Diverse clients.

Behind the scenes there is a lot of work that goes into preparing submissions for ongoing projects and services. I am very pleased to report that the IECC was successful in obtaining \$77,500 from the Community Relations Commission for the Regional Ethnic Community Development and Management Program (Manager's position). Furthermore, I am pleased to report that the IECC have received \$55,000 from Arts NSW for the Multicultural Arts Program, and \$20,000 for In Home Dementia Monitoring from the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care. I would like to take this opportunity to

thank the Community Relations Commission, Arts NSW and the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care for their generous and continuous support to the IECC.

I am also delighted to report that our Multicultural Seniors Luncheon was held at Kembla Grange Function Centre on Friday the 20th of March 2009 and was attended by a record number of 370 clients from 21 Multicultural Communities and it was an outstanding success. I would like to acknowledge and thank the Department of Ageing, Disability And Home Care for their generous and continuous support to IECC and all CALD communities.

I am also pleased to report that on Wednesday the 18th of March the IECC met with the Honourable Virginia Judge Minister for Citizenship and Minister Assisting the Premier on Arts and gave the minister an overview, including insights into services provided as well as the history of the IECC and the challenges ahead for CALD communities in the Illawarra. It was a very positive meeting with a pleasing outcome.

The IECC will relocate to the new premises to 117 Corrimal Street, Wollongong in mid May.

This year the IECC will be holding a ball to raise funds for Dementia Awareness. The theme of the ball will be **'Dancing for Dementia'**. Please mark Thursday, 5th of November in your calendar for this very exciting and worthwhile multicultural event.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to the IECC Management Committee, the Manager and staff and to all of our volunteers for their dedication to the ideals of the IECC and the hard work that makes it all happen.

If you have any questions in relation to the IECC or any related projects, please feel free to contact our office. Our friendly and dedicated staff would be happy to hear from you.

Kind Regards



Ken Habak
Chairperson

Aged Care Division

Seniors Week Multicultural Luncheon

The Seniors Week Multicultural Luncheon was held on Friday 20 March 2009 at the Kembla Grange Racecourse. Over 370 seniors from various Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds attended the event.

Representatives from the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care attended the event including Helen Cafe (Deputy Regional Director, Southern Region) and Ian Parker (Service Support and Development Officer). Joe Wright, Chairperson of the Seniors Week Committee of Wollongong City Council, was among other representatives which included Italian Social Welfare and Shellharbour City Council.

The special feature of the event was a presentation of the NSW Seniors Week Award which was awarded to a local community member Mr. John Papakosmas.

The Multicultural Luncheon included a world music performance by Mr. Lemme, and a Tai Chi movement demonstrated by Tai Chi Instructor Marta Venegas.

The event celebrated the valuable contribution our seniors and elderly have made to the community and promoted the cultural diversity and harmony in the Illawarra.



Ethnic Meals on Wheels

The Illawarra Food Services Forum Wheels to Meals Luncheon was held on the 11 March 2009 at the Thirroul Bowling Club. The Luncheon was well attended with over 90 people attending. Everyone had a lovely time and the food was delicious. The luncheon was hosted by the Northern Illawarra Meals on Wheels.



Due to Supplier price increases, the Ethnic Meals on Wheels has increased the meal prices as of Monday 6 April 2009. It has been 5 years since the last price increase and the decision has been made with great consideration of the clients.

Community Partners Programme (CPP)

The Illawarra CPP team held a workshop for Aged Care Providers in the Illawarra on Tuesday 24 March 2009 at Itsowel on how to access the Community Partners Programme to support the ageing community from a CALD background who are 70 years and over.

The workshop covered topics including CPP guidelines, Cultural Briefings, Information Sessions, Barriers, Resources, Models of Care for CALD older people, and case scenarios.

Maria Stephanou from the Transcultural Aged Care Service (TACS) NSW was the guest speaker and the workshop was facilitated by IECC Manager Terrie Leoleos.

The workshop was well attended with over 40 Aged Care providers attending.

The workshop was facilitated by the Ukrainian, Greek, Italian, Polish and Macedonian Community Partners Programme Coordinators and supported by the Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council, Greek Welfare Centre, Itsowel, Polish Australian Welfare Association, and Macedonian Welfare Association.

In Home Respite and Social Support Services

IECC In Home Social Support Program needs Volunteers.

Have you thought about becoming a volunteer?

Volunteering is a great way to get involved in your local community, meet people or gain work experience.

Aim of this service?

- To provide companionship
- To enable elderly people to participate in community life in order to meet their need for social contact
- To help older people remain living independently in their own homes
- To reduce social isolation and to enhance the quality of life for older people
- To provide a flexible service that caters for the older person's needs.

If you think you could be a volunteer in IECC In Home Social Support Program please contact Meri Zafarovski on (02) 4229 7566 or email meri@iecc.org.au.

Youth and Arts Division

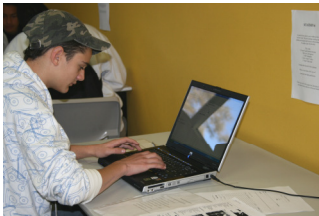
links to learning



The 2009 Links to Learning program has begun with students from Lake Illawarra High, Oak Flats High, Warilla High, Illawarra Sports High, Warrawong High and Figtree High Schools participating in training and educational challenges including TAFE training, First Aid, Duke of Edinburgh, Retail, Defence and many more.



The program focuses on communication skills, developing positive self esteem, language and living skills, career and educational pathways along with a 'next step' towards career goals. Encouragement, support and information are provided to students to assist them to remain in school, move into training, apprentices or secure employment.



The program is seeking sponsors to provide additional activities for the participants. Interested parties should contact Michael Marino at the IECC on (02) 4296 9032 or email michael@iecc.org.au

KIDS MAKING CHOICES

Kids Making Choices early intervention workshops are held six times a year, enabling young people in year six to explore values that are important to them using creative mediums such as storytelling, photography, roll playing and drama. The students discuss different values, challenges around peer pressure and personal goals, and are encouraged to develop competencies to assist them in the transition to high school.



The Kids Making Choices workshops for 2009 began with Wollongong Primary School on the 17 February 2009 at the Wollongong PCYC. Cringila Primary School and Koonawarra Primary School have also booked for workshops in 2009.

If you require more information regarding the Kids Making Choices Program, please contact the Coordinator, Irina, on (02) 4229 7566 or email irina@iecc.org.au

MULTICULTURAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (MYDP)

The **Welcome to Wollongong** festival was held on the 27 February 2009 at the Civic Plaza (IPAC) with a Civic Reception and performances including the Puka Puka youth performers, who were sponsored by IECC, to welcome International students.

The MYDP Officer was part of the Festival Committee in collaboration the University of Wollongong, TAFE, community organisations and volunteers.

The **International Women's Day** Cross Cultural Dialogue Lunch between Aboriginal Service Workers and other community service workers was originally proposed for Friday 13 March 2009. This event has now been postponed for NAIDOC Week which is held each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This event is in consultation with IECC Aged Care Coordinator Gordana Spirovska, Cultural Services Worker Darinka Radinovic, and Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation Worker, Sheree.

The **Harmony Day/ Youth Week** event was held on Monday 30 March 2009 at Cringila Community Hall and is a collaborative partnership with Port Kembla Youth Project (PKYP) and Cringila Co-Op. It is an event which caters for around 60 Year 6 students from Port Kembla Public School and Cringila Public School. It provides young people with information from a range youth and multicultural services in the area, and gives them the opportunity to participate in activities such as beading, drama, body percussion and drumming.

MULTICULTURAL ARTS

The 2009 Southside Lake Walk Festival is an annual community based event that aims to bring together the different communities of the southern suburbs to promote diversity and a sense of belonging. This year the Multicultural Arts Officers were part of the organising committee who programmed the performers and buskers, and also organised the \$1000 art prize. The event was held on Saturday 21 March 2009 which involved a lake walk from the Illawarra Yacht Club in Warrawong through to the Berkeley Jetty.

The IECC Head Office is open from

Monday to Friday 9:00am—5:00pm

We are located at : 16 Stewart Street, Wollongong

For more information or a brochure in various languages, ring, fax or email Liz

Phone: 4229 7566

Fax: 4226 3146

Email: admin@iecc.org.au

Or visit us on our website: www.iecc.org.au

For More Information On Individual Projects and Activities

CALD Aged Care and Disability Services

The IECC delivers specialised services and aged care programs for CALD communities across the Illawarra including:

Middle Eastern Day Care
Croatian Day Care

Greek Day Care

Baltic States Day Care
Ukrainian Day Care

Dutch Day Care

Ethnic Meals On Wheels

Ukrainian CPP Project

Village Elders & Friends of
Cringila Social Group

In-Home Respite &
Social Support Services

Multicultural Dementia
Day Care Services

Dementia Carer Support

HACC Community
Development Respite
Services

Find Out More About Our Multicultural Arts & Youth



links to learning

KIDS MAKING CHOICES

MULTICULTURAL YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

MULTICULTURAL ARTS

EXPRESSIONS OF HARMONY
PROGRAM

IECC Announcements & Upcoming Events

Illawarra Multicultural Youth Conference

Wednesday 3 June 2009

University of Wollongong

*Please contact Jen for more information on (02) 4229 7566 or email
jen@iecc.org.au*

IECC 'DANCING FOR DEMENTIA' FUNDRAISING BALL

Thursday 5 November 2009

City Beach Function Centre

Tickets \$70.00 each

Contact Kristina on 4229 7566 for more information

National Volunteers Week

*'Everyday people, Extraordi-
nary contribution'*

11-17 MAY 2009

Contact Gordana on 4229 7566

For more information

Welcome Here 2009

Friday 19 June 2009

Wollongong TAFE

*Please contact Mignon for more
information on (02) 4229 7566 or email
mignon@iecc.org.au*