



## C.A.L.D. TALK

### QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER OF THE ILLAWARRA ETHNIC COMMUNITIES COUNCIL

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January 09

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Happy New Year and welcome to the first edition of CALD Talk for 2009. I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas/ New Years break and are fully rejuvenated and looking forward to another remarkable and rewarding year for the Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council (IECC).

I am extremely pleased and truly overwhelmed with the outstanding support we received from various ethnic communities, religious leaders and IECC members in 2008. I cannot emphasise enough how important it is for the IECC to know that we have your backing and support. Your feedback on our services and advocacy is vital to our growth and development as an organisation and voice for ethnic communities throughout the Illawarra. Please continue to express your views and opinions to us so that we can work together on IECC initiatives that will benefit the communities we serve.

Highlights of the IECC included:

- The Annual General Meeting was held on the 6th of December 2008 and was very well attended by members, staff and funding departments representatives, where the following six Management Committee Members were elected unopposed to join our six existing members:

- Mr George Bartolo, Ms Helen Sara, Ms Bahtizen Anaz, Mr Lazo Gorgiev, Mr. Rudi Horvath and Mr Nixon Hanna.

- I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and welcome the newly elected management committee members and thank our members and staff for attending the AGM and for their ongoing support.
- My sincere thanks to our guest speaker the Federal Member for Cunningham Ms Sharon Bird.
- I am also delighted to report that the IECC Christmas dinner was held on the 4th of December and was well attended by staff, management committee a partners, and special guests. The great atmosphere and good cheer ensured an excellent night for all.

- I am also pleased to report that our Volunteers Christmas party was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December and was well attended and very well organised, my sincere thanks and gratitude to our hard working Volunteers.
- The Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council first management committee meeting for 2009 was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January and the following management committee members were elected to the following positions:
  - Ken Habak (Chairperson & Public Officer)
  - George Bartolo (Senior Vice Chair & OH&S Rep.)
  - John Papakosmas (Vice Chair)
  - Helen Sara (Treasurer)
  - Bahtizen Anaz (Secretary)
  - Sabine Hauth (Assistant Secretary)
  - Lazo Gorgiev (Assistant Treasurer)
  - Nixon Hanna (Public Relations Rep.)
  - Husayn Aly (Youth Rep.)
  - Grace Oliveira, David De Santi, and Rudi Horvath committee members
- Finally I am very pleased to report that the IECC head office will relocate to the new premises at 117 Corrimal Street Wollongong this year. We will contact our members closer to the date to confirm when the relocation will occur.

So, until next time, have a happy and prosperous 2009 and please continue to provide us with any suggestions, comments or feedback that you may have regarding improvements to our newsletter, or any concern you may have with any of our projects or services.

Kind Regards



Ken Habak  
Chairperson

## Aged Care Division

### Volunteers Luncheon

The 2008 Volunteers Luncheon was held on the 22 December 2008 at the Hellenic Club in Figtree.

Over 80 volunteers attended the celebration and were presented with a certificate and a gift to acknowledge their hard work and support to the Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council over the past twelve months.

On behalf of the IECC Management Committee, Staff and the many clients and families who are involved in the programs would like to thank all the volunteers for their valuable contribution and support and look forward to working together in 2009.



### CRC Volunteering Awards 2008

The Annual Community Relations Commission (CRC) Volunteering Awards for 2008 was presented at the NSW Parliament House on Wednesday 3 December 2008.

The 2008 CRC 'Volunteer of the Year' Award was awarded to Mr Ken Habak.



*Minister for Citizenship and Fair Trading  
Ms Virginia Judge MP with Ken Habak*

Ken Habak has been recognised for his outstanding contribution to the community sector in the Illawarra area for over 35 years. He is one of the founding members of the Lebanese Association in the 1970s and since then has been involved in settling families of other backgrounds to the region.

Ken has been an active member and Chairperson of the Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council for over eight years where he has worked tirelessly to establish strong foundations and sustainability for the organisation. He also facilitates and negotiates partnerships to provide appropriate aged care, arts and youth funding for the culturally diverse communities in the Illawarra.

This has been the second year in a row where the award had been awarded to the Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council.

## CPP INFORMATION SESSION FOR AGED CARE PROVIDERS

The Illawarra CPP team held an Information Session for all aged care providers on the 25 November 2008. This session was to promote dialogue between aged care services and CPP Coordinators.



Representatives from the Department of Health and Ageing and NSW Transcultural Aged Care Service were guest speakers at the event.

Since aged care approval rounds were open, this was a great opportunity for aged care service providers to meet the Illawarra CPP Coordinators and discuss future approaches to aged care for CALD communities.



The Illawarra CPP team have scheduled another Information Session for March 2009.

The event was facilitated by the Illawarra CPP Coordinators, Ukrainian, Polish, Macedonian, Italian and Greek programmes.

## NEW STAFF

The IECC welcomes the following staff to the team.

Sally Munday– In Home Personal Care Assistant  
Sophie Stergiou - In Home Personal Care Assistant.

We say goodbye to Danuta Pochanke (In Home Personal Care Assistant) and Nihal Uckan (In Home Dementia Support Worker). The IECC would like to wish both all the best in their future endeavours.

## Youth and Arts Division

### links to learning



The 2008 Links to Learning program has come to an end with an amazing graduation dinner at the Hellenic Club in Figtree. 270 people gathered for the occasion as 56 students graduated from Lake Illawarra High, Oak Flats High, Warilla High, Illawarra Sports High, Warrawong High and Figtree High Schools received their training portfolios they worked hard for all year. In front of family and friends they received awards including TAFE Training, First Aid, Duke of Edinburgh, Retail, Self Defence, volunteer work and many more.

A huge thank you must go to all the wonderful organisations which assisted the program as well as the IECC Management Committee and Staff.

The program is also seeking sponsors to provide additional activities for the participants. Interested parties should contact *Michael Marino* at the IECC on (02) 4296 9032.

See you all in 2009.



### KIDS MAKING CHOICES

Kids Making Choices successfully completed its second year at the IECC, with all six program two day workshops fully attended at the Wollongong and Lake Illawarra PCYC's. The early intervention program worked with CALD classes at Coniston Primary School and Tarrawanna Primary School for the second half of the year assisting over 250 year six students.



The workshop model has had positive feedback throughout the year, allowing the IECC Coordinator to continue to develop the project and effectively monitor its immediate and longer term effects.

The IECC would like to thank the Wollongong and Lake Illawarra PCYC's which have been an integral to the program's success. The day's end with sessions with the local PCYC activities in the gym, or out in the field playing dodge ball. The IECC would like to thank the Local Police Youth Liaison Officers from Wollongong and Lake Illawarra Police who took time out of their busy schedule to get involved, breaking down barriers and working together on community crime prevention. For those interested in further information or schools attending in 2009 please email the Project Coordinator at irena@iecc.org.au

### MULTICULTURAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (MYDP)

**CASUAL EDGE:** The six week job seeking program concluded with a certificate and resource package on the 11 December 2008 at the Warrawong Intensive English Centre (WIEC). The workshop included a speaker from Centrelink and a former WIEC student.

**SOCCER DAY:** The event was held at the University of Wollongong in collaboration with the Department of Education and Training (DET) and WIEC. The Soccer Day was held on Tuesday 16 December 2008. The day included soccer games with the Links to Learning students, a barbeque and presentation. Students were given certificates of participation, information packs including IECC MYDP and DET information, and the NSW Fire Brigade also contributed to resources. Baker's Delight Warrawong also donated bread rolls for the barbeque.

**HCAP EXPO:** IECC attended the community event which was held on the 3rd December 2008. HCAP aims to bring community services to the residents of Warrawong's Housing Department. IECC Aged Care and Youth Coordinators attended to promote IECC services and distributed information packs.



**YOUTH MEN'S HEALTH SQUAD:** The MYDP has successfully received funding for the Young Men's Health Squad. The CALD young men's health project will be developed in partnership with Healthy Cities and implemented in 2009.

### MULTICULTURAL ARTS

**Welcome Here 2008:** A professional 5 minute DVD has been developed with the help of a film director. This is a profound and touching short film of the Welcome Here Festival 2008. The DVD will be used to attract future funding for the event in addition to being a perfect tool for the IECC to use in demonstration as an example of the programs that are developed and run in the Illawarra.

**New Enterprise Garden/ Food Program:** Richard Norrison as the Coordinator of the Garden/ Food arm of the project, has been working in the community garden at Cringila and initiating a culturally appropriate food supply network within the local shops for the African and Burmese communities.

The Multicultural Arts Development Team would like to thank everyone who was involved in festivals, events, programs and exhibitions in 2008. We look forward to continuing our creative relationships with all of you in 2009.

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](mailto:admin@iecc.org.au)

Or visit us on our website: [www.iecc.org.au](http://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

### RELOCATION OF IECC PREMISES

The IECC will be relocating its premises to 117 Corrimal Street Wollongong this year. We will contact our members closer to the date to confirm when the relocation will occur.

Please contact our office for further information.

*Seniors Week Multicultural Luncheon will be held on Friday 20 March 2009. Invitations will be sent in February 2009.*

*CALD Coordinators monthly meetings will begin on the 17 February 2009. Invitations are extended to representatives from community organisations who support CALD elderly. Contact Gordana on 4229 7566 for more information*

## IECC Seeking Volunteers

*IECC is continually in search of volunteers who can assist any of our clients.*

*If you have a bit of time on your hands and are looking to share a few precious moments please contact the staff on 4229 7566*

**Welcome to Wollongong 2009**

**Friday 27 February 2009**

**Civic Reception**

**Civic Plaza**

**Illawarra Performing Arts Centre**

**Burelli Street, Wollongong**