

3. EVENTS ATTENDED:

1. VINAC: Peter talked through his brief summary of ideas for events taken from the VINAC conference, distributed with the meeting agenda for item 6.1.
2. Interest was expressed in the following ideas from the summary:
 - a. The Multifaith Disability Project – possibly run jointly with Knox Council; Peter will distribute the brief information pack shared at VINAC. Joan noted that one type of disability which could be covered is mental health.
 - b. **ACTION:** Joan will try to source information about the demographics by religion and culture/race in the Knox Council area (based on 2011 Census)

NOTE: This has been provided by Joan after the meeting:

Religion: <http://profile.id.com.au/knox/religionm> (see analysis accompanying these minutes)

Recent arrivals: <http://profile.id.com.au/knox/arrival-communities-interest>

Non-English speaking background: <http://profile.id.com.au/knox/nesb-communities-interest>

Overseas born: <http://profile.id.com.au/knox/overseas-communities-interest>

- c. Sponsoring a film festival linked to schools. Gwenda noted a theme and guidelines would have to be published. Joan noted that we would have to consider what is in it for the schools.

ACTION: Peter to contact Richard Leigh from Campfire Film Foundation to invite him to present to the Network.
- d. Regarding the Guides, we could make them aware of the Islamic Museum.

4. POSSIBLE FUTURE EVENTS

- Maher reported on plans for the Multicultural Harmony Festival. The application was not submitted by the organising committee for the full event for 2015, which would have been for the third consecutive year. A smaller event will be run in 2015 instead, with the larger event to be attempted again in 2016.
 - The 2015 event will be held on Sunday, 19th April from 11am-6pm at the Hungarian Community Centre and will include cultural groups providing entertainment in the hall as well as other activities for children.
 - There will not be a separate space for the Network. There may be an opportunity to share a Knox Council space. This will be confirmed by Joan to Mark.
 - The Network will bring its banner, photograph book, information booklets, information sheet, Golden Rule photograph with A4 hand-out sheets, sign-up sheet.
 - Tentative Roster:
 - Mark: set-up
 - Gwenda/Lee: from 11am (suggest arriving 15 minutes before)
 - Mark from 1pm
 - Tina/Pat from 3pm
 - Peter: pack-up and possible other time slot TBD
- Funding opportunities for major programs
 - VMC Funding: three funding opportunities each year:
 - Two rounds of multicultural festivals and event.
(The current funding round is open until 26 February for events run in the second half of 2015; the next funding cycle will be for the first half of 2016, with applications closing around August 2015.)
 - One round for multi-faith activities. The next round will likely open around October 2015, closing in December 2015, for events to run from July 2016 to June 2017. This is a more likely source.
 - Knox City Council Community Development Fund
 - Annual funding – with submissions due in the past around July for the following calendar year, with notifications around October.
 - Bendigo Bank – Community Enterprise Foundation

- Done by grouping of bank branches
- Likely funding applications around end of 2015
- Graham F Smith Peace Foundation (ongoing: re arts projects focused on peace, justice and care for the environment)
- Pat suggested a visit to the Islamic Museum; Mark has access to a bus seating 24 people and is registered to drive it. Target date for a visit is Saturday, 1 August 2015. **ACTION:** Pat to enquire about details/arrangements.
- Mark reminded people of the possible visit to Southern Cemeteries. A possible target date would be October.
- Pat and Gwenda will attend the City of Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network Breakfast on 7 February at 7am.
- Fr. Nick de Groot will attend the Sant Nirankari event *Harmony in Oneness* with His Holiness Baba Hardev Singh Ji on Friday 13 February (from 6:30pm) –at the Drum Theatre, 226 Lonsdale, St., Dandenong. Lee may also attend. RSVP is due to Manjit Singh at 0404 04 00 66 or melbourne@nirankari.org

5. MATTERS FROM KNOX COUNCIL

- Joan provided copies of the 2014 Knox Multicultural Directory
- Joan noted that the Council sends out an email monthly with multicultural items
- Joan alerted the Network to the Council's Multicultural Strategic Plan – this is available at http://www.knox.vic.gov.au/Page/Page.aspx?Page_Id=3199
- Nominations have closed to join the Knox Multicultural Advisory Committee for 2015-2017
- Knox Council has signed off recently on a Refugee Welcome Zone (Knox received about 220 refugees from 2001-06, about 5% of people who moved into Knox) (see http://www.knox.vic.gov.au/Page/Page.aspx?Page_id=4072)
- Campaign re Stopping Racism – further information is coming soon
- Knox Festival – 28 Feb / 1 Mar

6. MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST

- How best to reach out to the local Muslim community given recent local and world events: deferred until Saleema is able to attend to discuss the matter – possible June topic; to be confirmed at the AGM in April.

7. MEETINGS FOR 2015

7.1 AGM: 13 April 2015 - Notice to be distributed no later than 23 March 2015

7.2 Dates for meetings:

- 13 April 2015 (Room 2)
- 1 June 2015 (Room 1)
- 3 August 2015 (Room 1)
- 5 October 2015 (Room 2)
- November – likely to be the annual joint meeting with KMAC on a date to be advised

8. NEXT MEETING

13 April 2015 - AGM.

Meeting closed at 9:15pm.