INCLUSIVE & COHESIVE COMMUNITIES IN NSW CONFERENCE

PROGRAM
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WELCOME
**DAY 1:**
**THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER**

**Venue:**
State Library of NSW  
Metcalf Room, Macquarie Street, Sydney

8.30am
**Registrations**  
Cultural Welcoming Performance - Wiley Park Girls Dance Group

9am
**Welcome to Country and Opening remarks**  
Uncle Matt Doyle, Welcome to Country

9.10am
**Welcome to State Library of NSW**  
Dr John Vallance, State Librarian & Chief Executive

9.25am
**Conference Overview**  
Turkan Aksoy, Convener, Local Government Multicultural Network & Canterbury Bankstown Cultural and Inclusion Officer  
Tania Krasinski, Randwick City Council Multicultural Community Projects Officer

9.30am
**The Influence of Local Government and Its Impacts on Social Cohesion**  
Professor Roberta Ryan, Director, Institute of Public Policy and Governance, University of Technology Sydney

10.30am
**Morning tea**

11am
**Performance: Spoken Poetry**  
Bilal Hafda, Bankstown Poetry Slam

11.15am
**Current Best Practice Models State-wide:**  
Panel Facilitator: Azza Abouesh, Multicultural Officer, Department of Human Services  
**Wollongong City Council:** “Wollongong Living Books”  
Vimala Colless, Community Development Worker Multicultural  
**Newcastle City Council:** “Newcastle Multicultural Small Business Program”  
Sandra Feltham, Senior Community Planner, Strategic Planning  
**4Elements Project:**  
Vyvienne Abla, Vyva Entertainment  
**Penrith City Council:** “Mashrabiya”  
Hussein Nabeel, Tracey Leahy, Community Programs Coordinator and Willurai Kirkbright Aboriginal artist
12.15pm  **Buffet lunch:** attendees required to make their way to the Sydney Conservatorium of Music for afternoon sessions

**Venue:**  
**Sydney Conservatorium of Music**  
Conservatorium Road, Sydney  
Sydney Conservatorium of Music – Jazz Concert (optional)

1.30pm  
Sydney Conservatorium of Music presentation on Multicultural Engagement through current projects

2.10pm  
**Message to Delegates**  
The Hon. Ray Williams MP, Minister for Multiculturalism

2.20pm  
**Interactive workshops**  
Facilitated by Azza Abouesh, Multicultural Officer, Department of Human Services, Tania Krasinski, Randwick City Council and Turkan Aksoy, Canterbury-Bankstown Council  
Discussion session on: Engagement and Cohesion  
Partnerships Settlement and Employment

3.15pm  
**Afternoon tea**

3.45pm  
**Building Disaster Resilience in Multicultural Communities**  
Panel Facilitator: Mandy Moore, Senior Project Officer, Resilience and Engagement  
Panel members include representatives from: NSW Office of Emergency Management, State Emergency Services, Rural Fire Service and Australian Red Cross

4.30–6pm  
After Conference drinks and networking

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**DAY 2:**  
**FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER**

**Venue:**  
**State Library of NSW**  
Metcalf Room, Macquarie Street, Sydney

**9am**  
**Opening of Conference**  
The Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for Local Government Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage

**9.15am**  
**Welcome Back & Day 1 Debrief**  
Turkan Aksoy, Convener, Local Government Multicultural Network & Canterbury Bankstown Cultural and Inclusion Officer  
Tania Krasinski, Randwick City Council Multicultural Community Projects Officer
9.30am  Building a collaborative response to refugee settlement
Facilitated by: Hakan Harman, Chief Executive Officer, Multicultural NSW
Panel members include:
Luca De Francesco, Migrant Support Program, Australian Red Cross
Shukufa Tahiri, Policy Officer, Refugee Council of Australia
Fairfield City Council and Liverpool Council
Loukia Zinopoulos, Manager, Settlement Services International
Mary Minns, Director Settlement & Multicultural Affairs, Department of Social Services NSW/ACT

10.30am  Morning tea

11am  Performance: Yasmine Lewis Poetry Slam Artist

11.10am  Building a community of welcome for refugees
Tim O’Connor, Director at the Refugee Council of Australia

11.55am  Refugee Settlement
Councillor Dallas Tout, Deputy Mayor, City of Wagga Wagga

12.30pm  Lunch: attendees required to make their way to the Botanical Gardens for afternoon sessions
Venue: Sydney Botanical Gardens
Mrs Macquarie’s Road, Sydney

1.30pm  Performance: King B-Fine, African Drummer

1.40pm  Wellbeing and Self-Care for Optimal Performance
Alison Hood, Clinical Supervisor and Counsellor, Bankstown Women’s Health Centre Inc.

3pm  The Social Role of Botanic Gardens
Kalkani Choolburra, Aboriginal Heritage Tours
Phil Pettitt, Community Greening Coordinator, Botanic Gardens & Centennial Parklands
Mary Enkababian, Sydney South West Local Health District Health Promotion Service NSW

5-5.30 pm  Conference wrap up and where to from here
CONFERENCE INFORMATION

You are invited to join colleagues across NSW in all levels of government, NGO and community services to network, and:

- Examine the best practice models/framework to promote social cohesion and inclusion;
- Explore philosophical questions and pragmatic responses to social cohesion challenges in our diverse communities; and
- Showcase key strategies used by local workers to engage and improve the experience of CALD communities.

Who should attend?

- Local Government Community Development and Project staff
- CALD-related community management and workers
- Diversity and inclusion professionals
- Advocates, practitioners and consultants
- Community leaders and educators
- Funding bodies
- Non-profit leaders
- Business partners

Conference organisers

The Conference is brought to you by the Local Government Multicultural Network, in partnership with Multicultural NSW, Local Government NSW, the State Library of NSW, Randwick City Council, Georges River Council, Parramatta City Council, Liverpool City Council and City of Canterbury Bankstown, and in collaboration with Department of Human Services, Vyva Entertainment, Inner West Council and City of Sydney.

Inquiries to:

Turkan Aksoy, Convener, Local Government Multicultural Network Cultural and Inclusion Officer, Canterbury-Bankstown Council
T. 02 9707 9863
E. turkan.aksoy@cbcity.nsw.gov.au

Inquiries at the event:

Tania Krasinski, Multicultural Community Projects Officer, Randwick City Council
T. 0419 846 910
Day 1 and Day 2 sessions begin at the State Library of NSW (transport details below). The afternoon sessions will be close by at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music (Day 1) and Royal Botanic Garden Sydney (Day 2). Walking maps will be provided and volunteers will be available to assist and guide participants to the afternoon sessions. For specific details on accessibility, contact the Conference Organisers directly.

**Morning sessions Day 1 & 2**
State Library of NSW  
Metcalfe Room, Ground Floor, Macquarie Street, Sydney  

**Afternoon session Day 1**
Sydney Conservatorium of Music (The Con)  
1 Conservatorium Road, Sydney  
http://music.sydney.edu.au/contact/

**Afternoon session Day 2**
Royal Botanic Garden Sydney  
Mrs Macquarie’s Road Sydney  
GETTING THERE

State Library of NSW
Metcalfe Room is accessible from the ground floor from the Macquarie Street entrance. Accessible toilet is adjacent to the session room. No set down point available, however accessible parking is available.

Sydney Conservatorium of Music
A 5 minute walk from the State Library, entrances to the SCM is via Macquarie Street or follow the path from the entrance to the Botanical Gardens opposite the State Library (Shakespeare Place). For more information, go to: www.music.sydney.edu.au/contact/

Royal Botanic Garden Sydney
Lion Gate Lodge (enter via Royal Botanic Garden or by arrangement via Stoneyard Gate, accessible toilet).
Accessible parking bays are provided near the Woolloomooloo Gate and outside the Art Gallery of NSW.

Trains:
- Martin Place Station is 200 metres from the library and is wheelchair accessible. www.sydneytrains.info

Buses:
- Buses stop on Elizabeth Street and Castlreagh Street, near Martin Place.
- Route 200 (Chatswood to Bondi) stops on Macquarie Street. www.sydneybuses.info

Parking:
Closest parking stations to the State Library of NSW:
- 187 Macquarie Street, Sydney
- 131 Macquarie Street, Sydney
- 60 Elizabeth Street, Sydney
- Sydney Eye Hospital, Sydney
- Domain Car Park, 2 St Marys Road, Sydney
Inclusive and Cohesive Community conference is a collaborative event where all sessions are facilitated and presented by CALD-related community stakeholders. Session formats vary and include Panel Q&A, lecture style and participatory workshops. All conference material will be handed out at registration.

**Conference material:**
A full comprehensive conference program will be supplied in the conference bag at registration.

**Connecting to wi-fi**
You can connect to the State Library of NSW’s free wi-fi in all of its public areas. You do not need a login, password or Library card.

You will need to select “SLNSW” from the list of available networks to connect. By connecting to the SLNSW network, you agree to the Library’s Internet usage policy.

Make sure you are connected to the “SLNSW network”, other networks may be available but these won’t connect you to the Library’s wi-fi.

**Catering**
Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be supplied. Special dietary requirements need to be communicated via the registration form or directly with the conference contacts (refer to page 6).

Conference drinks will be an optional event, all are welcome to attend, continue discussions and network.
Accommodation Information


Quote LGMN2017 upon calling or emailing hotels below to receive 10% discount (subject to availability).

Novotel Sydney on Darling Harbour
70-100 Murray Street
Pyrmont
T. 02 9288 7180
E. H1181@accor.com

Novotel Sydney Rockford Darling Harbour
17 Little Pier Street
Darling Harbour
T. 02 8217 4081
E. Sydney.Reservations@rockfordhotels.com.au

Ibis Sydney Darling Harbour
70-100 Murray Street
Pyrmont
T. 02 9288 7180
E. H1757@accor.com

Ibis Sydney World Square
382 -384 Pitt Street
Sydney
T. 02 8267 3111
E. h2132@accor.com

Mercure Sydney Central
818-820 George Street
Ultimo NSW 2007
T. 02 9217 6666
E. h2073@accor.com

Pullman Sydney Hyde Park
36 College Street
Sydney
T. 02 9361 8527
E. h8763@accor.com

Novotel Sydney Central
169 -179 Thomas Street
Sydney
T: 02 9218 2872
E: h8781@accor.com
Presenters, Facilitators & Performers

Uncle Matt Doyle, Welcome to Country
Matthew is a dancer, musician, songman, didgeridoo player, cultural consultant and educator, with more than 30 years experience in performing arts. He has toured extensively in Australia and abroad, performing in many countries as both a soloist and a collaborator.

He has performed in major events such as the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games as well as the Sydney 2000 Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

He has broadcasted on top of the Sydney Opera House, opened the Indigenous Gallery Musee Du Quai Branly in Paris, he has welcomed the Pope during World Youth Day and members of the Royal Family to Sydney.

Tim O’Connor
Tim O’Connor has worked in the arenas of human rights, international aid and development for more than 15 years. Focusing on Asia and the Pacific and including stints in Africa and the Middle East, Tim has worked across the spectrum from NGOs to UN organisations, in responding to emergencies including the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami, floods, cyclones, earthquakes, in conflict and on long-term development programs.

Having had the privilege of working with refugee and displaced communities across the world, Tim has a well-developed understanding of the challenges faced by refugees and is interested in growing that understanding in the Australian community. Tim has a background in economics and law and is currently the Director at the Refugee Council of Australia.

Dr John Vallance
A Cambridge scholar, Dr Vallance recently ended a 17-year tenure as headmaster of Sydney Grammar School. Dr Vallance brings a wealth of knowledge as a highly-regarded educator and academic to the State Library.

He has championed Asian and Indigenous cultural knowledge in education, seeking to broaden the world view not just of students and teachers, but of a wide circle of influence.

Dr Vallance has already made a valuable contribution to the Library as a member of the Library Council of NSW, and as a Trustee of the State Library Foundation; he is also a Director of both the National Art School and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

Hussein Nabeel
Sydney-based artist Hussein Nabeel tells stories by creating ever-changing vibrant and colourful illustrations. Having just graduated a few months ago from uni, Nabeel is already a name to watch on the contemporary Australian art scene.
**Sydney Conservatorium of Music – Jazz Concert**

Sydney Conservatorium of Music’s Jazz Studies Program is one of the oldest and most highly regarded jazz programs in Australia. Students work alongside some of Australia’s best-known jazz musicians and composers and are trained in improvisation, ensemble playing and repertoire development. Studies in aural, harmony and history subjects support these skills. The aim is for each student to achieve both artistic individuality and a high level of musical literacy. Students benefit from being in small groups for maximum contact with staff and fellow players.

**Professor Roberta Ryan**

Professor Roberta Ryan is a leading social researcher and policy, program evaluation and stakeholder engagement practitioner, with more than 30 years experience in both the public and private sectors. With a strong interest in the relationship between people and places, she has worked in areas of community services, strategic planning, land use planning, sustainability, organisational change and development and citizen engagement. Roberta is the director of the Institute for Public Policy and Governance (UTS:IPPG) and the UTS Centre for Local Government (UTS:CLG) at the University of Technology Sydney.

**Yasmine Lewis**

Spoken Word Poet

Born and bred in Bankstown, Yasmine Lewis is a writer, performer, spoken word artist, youth mentor and events coordinator. She began performing poetry in 2013 after attending Bankstown Poetry Slam. Since then, she’s become a state finalist in the national Australian Poetry Slam, toured internationally and co-directed two spoken word theatre shows. Currently, Yasmine is a mentor of Real Talk – an inter-school poetry program that uses spoken-word as a tool to discuss contemporary social issues and empower young people to use their voice in a positive way.

**The Hon. Ray Williams MP, Minister for Multiculturalism**

Member of the Legislative Assembly

Member for Castle Hill

Minister for Multiculturalism, and

Minister for Disability Services

Member of the Liberal Party.

**Tania Krasinski**

Youth & Multicultural Community Projects Officer

Randwick City Council and Co-Master of Ceremonies.

**Turkan Aksoy**

Convener, Local Government Multicultural Network & Canterbury Bankstown Cultural and Inclusion Officer and Co-Master of Ceremonies.
Hakan Harman

Chief Executive Officer at Multicultural NSW

Hakan Harman is an experienced Senior Executive in both the Public and Private Sectors. His qualifications include a Bachelor of Commerce and Master of Public Administration and he is a Fellow of CPA Australia. His areas of expertise include change management, corporate governance, stakeholder and strategic management and organisational leadership.

King B-Fine

King B-Fine is an Afro Australian Reggae/Reggae Dancehall/Root Reggae Artist based in Sydney Australia. He is also a Reggae dancehall artist with extensive experience in entertaining live audiences in nightclubs, concert halls, parks and festivals. King B-Fine has a background in African and Jamaican riddims, and sounds combined and delivered into energetic dancehall performances.

Tracey Leahy

Community Programs Coordinator, Penrith City Council.

Tracy Leahy is the Community Programs Coordinator for Penrith City Council. Tracy works in a multi-disciplinary team that innovatively develops opportunities to engage with the diverse local community. Tracy has responsibility for the Aboriginal, Youth and Multi-Cultural portfolios as well as many other projects and initiatives. Tracy was recently seconded to the Corporate Planning Team as a Senior Corporate Planner to assist with the development of Council’s Corporate Planning documents. Tracy has worked at Penrith Council for six years and is currently studying for her Graduate Diploma in Local Government Management at the University of Technology, in Sydney. Tracy also holds management qualifications with a degree in Applied Community Studies from Manchester Metropolitan University.

Phil Pettitt

Community Greening Coordinator at Royal Botanic Garden Sydney.

Phil Pettitt is part educator, part horticultural advisor, but principally is a community development worker and problem solver. He has more than 20 years experience in the horticulture sector and has provided high level horticultural services to the Botanic Gardens Trust, the Office of the Governor and Historic Houses Trust. For the past five years Phil has been the coordinator of the Community Green program, working in partnership with many NGOs, local and state government services to inspire and educate social housing residents in community gardening.

His Cultivating Communities presentation will discuss the guiding principles behind community gardens as a form of social development. This includes outlining the success of Australia’s very own Community Greening program, a partnership between Housing NSW and the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust. Since its inception in 2000, Community Greening Education horticulturists have helped hundreds of marginalised communities, including refugee young people in NSW establish communal garden projects primarily in public housing estates, on Council land, in churches and schools.
Mary Enkababian
Sydney South West Local Health District, Health Promotion Service, NSW.
Community Development has been the core business of Mary’s portfolio over the past 20 years working with SSWLHD, promoting healthier lifestyles, addressing issues of access to services and social justice, working with Multicultural, Aboriginal, minority, socially disadvantaged, public housing tenants, geographically isolated population groups.
For the past 10 years, Mary has been working alongside local disadvantaged communities and NGOs promoting best practice initiatives in community development to increase access to healthy and affordable food and finding local and practical solutions. Facilitating networking, developing and maintaining partnerships with key stakeholder agencies and empowering local community groups to identify gaps, address priorities and support opportunities of establishing food security programs including Community Kitchens, Community Gardens and Community Food Pantries.

Luca De Francesco
Support Worker in Migration Support Programs at Red Cross.
Luca De Francesco’s main focus is Community Development. He is a passionate advocate for the humanitarian rights of those experiencing difficulties and barriers as a result of forced migration, and insatiably curious about individuals’ diverse cultural backgrounds and their unique and too often untold stories.
He has a varied professional background ranging from community services to higher education administration, from academic research to ESL teaching (UK, Kazakhstan, Australia). Luca holds a PhD (2009, UNSW) in Ethnomusicology thanks to which he spent some time in South Africa and Indonesia, working with local groups in townships, villages and urban areas. Luca considers collaborating and learning with and from local community members a privilege rather than a job, a daily extraordinary and humbling insight into the human spirit and its infinite creative potential.

Vyvienne Abla
Founder of 4Elements
Founder and Creative Director of Vyva Entertainment (VE), Vyvienne Abla has worked within the Australian music, entertainment and events industry for almost 15 years. She has extensive experience in event management, organising a wide range of projects nationwide including festivals, music awards, youth and community programs, competitions, music/movie launches and publicity campaigns. Vyvienne is involved with artists from the conceptual phase to production and is instrumental in their professional development. She launched the 4Elements Music Project (4EMP) in 2015, a community based Hip Hop program, which has seen the completion of 4 large-scale music festivals, six series of youth workshops, two festival installations, as well as multiple offshoot programs and events. The project has received recognition around the world, further leading to international media opportunities for local young artists.
Alison Hood
Counsellor, Clinical Supervisor, Academic Teacher, Trainer
PACFA Reg. Clinical Supervisor 22304

Alison is a qualified and nationally accredited trauma-informed counsellor and clinical supervisor with extensive experience of providing culturally appropriate services for adult survivors of domestic and family violence, including childhood trauma, and asylum seekers and refugees. Alison currently provides trauma counselling through the Blue Knot Foundation and is counsellor coordinator with Bankstown Women’s Health Centre. Alison is an academic teacher with the Australian College of Applied Psychology and in her private practice provides clinical supervision for caseworkers and counsellors. She also provides professional consultation for lawyers working with clients who are involved with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and supports consultees to develop and manage sustainable, trauma-informed self-care practices. Alison’s work is informed by a commitment to social justice and by postgraduate qualifications in human rights, clinical supervision and counselling. Working with disadvantaged and marginalised individuals, families and communities, she advocates to address the broader systemic and social issues that impact health and wellbeing across the lifespan while adhering to respectful and responsive work practices that uphold strength and resilience.

Bilal Hafda
Bilal a high-school teacher, with a passion for spokenword poetry. Alongside running poetry and creative writing workshops in schools, he is currently involved in the RESPECT program, which are a series of Creative Arts Domestic Violence workshops that run with upper-primary students who have been flagged as potentially ‘at risk’ as having witnessed domestic violence at home, or have shown a tendency towards violence themselves. He is also a member of the Bankstown Poetry Slam and is constantly looking to facilitate and nurture the voice of the participants of the slams and audiences who attend them.

Loukia Zinopoulos
Settlement Services Manager with Settlement Services International.

She leads the Settlement Services team that supports strategic management of the Department of Social Services funded Settlement Services Program across the 23 organisations that form the New South Wales Settlement Partnership. Her team also supports the activities of the NSW Youth Collective and the Community Hubs in Sydney that are part of the National Community Hubs Program.

Ensuring that migrants and refugees are supported to achieve their potential as members of the Australian community has been the focus of Loukia’s work in the government and non-government sectors over the last 30 years. Her experience includes management of migrant resource centre programs and services and, as the Manager of the TAFE NSW Multicultural Education Unit, a diverse range of vocational education and training initiatives tailored to the needs of migrants and refugees.
James Humberstone
James’ music divides into two main fields, although there have been projects which have crossed the two. His background and the basis of aesthetic is in experimental music, especially the music of Howard Skempton. This is frequently heard in his concert music. Over the past decade Humberstone has become expert in composing for children, and especially in creating supporting resources and aligning his work to curricula. He has completed research in how composers retain their voice when writing for children. Humberstone’s other great interest is in music technology and its application in education. Since becoming a self-taught programmer while still in primary school, he has always had an interest in expanding (not replacing) musical experiences through the use of technology. After working for Sibelius Software for nearly a decade and at the same time, in his role as a teacher at MLC School in Sydney, producing many units of work and related resources and sharing them on this very website, Humberstone is widely recognised as a leader in this field internationally.

Sandra Feltham
Sandra is the Senior Community Planner at Newcastle City Council with extensive experience in working with communities in both health settings and local government in Australia. As an integrated planner, place manager and strategic community planner, Sandra has worked across place based, policy, strategic planning and community program areas in local government helping to shape high-level, cross-organisational strategic planning as well as directly engaging with communities in program delivery.

Shukufa Tahiri
Shukufa is a Policy Officer with Refugee Council of Australia. Her work involves research, policy and advocacy on national issues impacting refugees and asylum seekers. Shukufa fled the Taliban in 1999 as a child and arrived in Australia in 2006 as a refugee. Amnesty International Australia recognised Shukufa as one of the 15 women championing human rights in Australia in 2017.

Councillor Dallas Tout
City of Wagga Wagga