

## MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF CHRISTCHURCH MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL (INC.)

**Thursday, 7:00 PM, 22 May 2025**  
**at the Community Meeting Upper Riccarton Library,**  
**71 Main South Road, Sockburn, Christchurch.**  
**&**  
**Zoom Meeting**

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting opened by Surinder with Karakia

### 2. Apologies

Audley Davies

#### Attendees:

Surinder Tandon, Shirley Wright (General Manager – Christchurch Resettlement Services)

Nancy Goh, Jennifer Hsiao, Tulasna Bhandari, Emmi King, Farah Khosravi, Naomi Peters (minutes),

Hero Modares (Zoom), Archna Tandon (Zoom), Kogi So (Zoom), Narayani Tiwari (Zoom)

Moved by Nancy, Seconded by Hero

### 3. Minutes of the last monthly meeting (April)

All correct

Moved by Surinder, Seconded by Emmie

### 4. Matters arising from the last monthly meeting (April).

Nil

### 5. Correspondence. New membership applications. Updates.

All correspondence has been shared by email to members.

No new membership applications received.

There were some ethnic communities who showed the interest to become members at the event on 18 May.

Surinder is to invite them and send them the application form.

### 6. Financial Update – Acting Treasurer - Audrey Davies (Surinder on behalf)

Balance as at: 30 April 2025

Cheque account: \$11,778.47. Women's Committee account: \$1,722.19. Term Investment account: \$7,062.27

Income:

Membership renewal: Korean Society - \$50. ZAIA – Sandheep Kumar - \$50.

Credit interest - \$1.32

Expenses:

CCC Meeting Room hire - \$36

CMC Financial Statement & Services 2025 is with Christchurch Capacity Accounting for review.

Sent membership renewal invoices and friendly reminder emails to those who have not paid their membership renewals.

### 7. Guest presentation on Elderly Empowerment Network

- By Shirley Wright, General Manager – Christchurch Resettlement Services. Elderly Abuse & Empowerment. MSD funds – Age Concern & CRS. Isolation of elderly issues for ethnic community more so with language issues etc. CRS will offer knowledge to the community to deal with it better.

Immigration NZ relaxing visa for family (longer term), so potentially more issues in the community.

Lack of social network - Generation thing. Extended families live together but the new generation brought

up in NZ does not necessarily have the same idea as the older generation about taking care of elderly – potentially an issue in the future.

Community should take responsibility to support family. Migrants' family just visiting (visitors visa) are supported by CRS as well – same to Age Concern.

CRS have been working with migrants as NPO for some 30 years. It works with Refugees originally, now include migrants as its criteria. Generic support not only settlement issues.

Partnership / Collaboration – work together, better outcome – learn from each other.

Goal: support communities to address elder abuse

Office for Seniors (MSD) – funding CRS to offer support for own communities to look after elderly.

Partnerships:

CMC, CRS, Police, Council, Pura Pura Whetu\*, Canterbury Family Violence Collaboration.

\* First year support for refugees (2.5 years now) in Canterbury.

Currently finalizing the terms of reference and reviewing who CRS need to connect with and how to engage with diverse communities and older people.

Abuse: Things being forced against your own will (cultural background need to be aware)

Financial abuse, Not care given, Mental health, Family violence, Isolation.

Not one size fits all situations.

How can we get involved? Join network - Once every 6 weeks. Go out to communities and talk and offer support. We need to do this together.

## 8. Meetings, Activities and Events

- Multicultural Festival - International Mother's and Family's Day. Sunday 18 May. Report

18 Groups performances there. Food and activities.

Turnout was good but we should promote it more next time.

Overall a good event that everyone enjoyed. Good to see young kids.

Some CMC membership interest. Thanks for your support and help.

One of the Chinese groups made a professional video - to be shared in the CMC group, together with photos. The caterer thanked us.

Feedback from Aldersgate Centre – Cleaning needs to be better i.e. food on the floor. Chairs need to be stacked up as instructed.

- INFoRM Meeting at Multicultural Centre. Tuesday 13 May. Report.

Surinder attended. Speaker from Electoral Commission. Update from Viviana on CDEM - self preparedness to disaster. Survey was on – CMC done by Surinder. Contents: how are you prepared, what facility you have, cultural sensitivity – very useful for CCC and CDEM to have.

- Meeting with Christchurch Resettlement Services (Shirley Wright) for establishing Empowerment (Elder Abuse) Network. See above for Shirley's presentation.

- CCC Survey for civil defense emergency preparedness for multicultural communities.

CMC survey done by Surinder.

- Changes to Charities Laws. Workshops by Community Law Canterbury. Lunchtime 17 April, evening 12 May.

- CMC website: chchmc.org.nz

Members need to register to be able to login to access documents. Please register for log in.

Naomi Peters is helping to administer and update the website.

Copycat – guidelines and username etc. Google drive will be created to share photos etc. for use on the website.

- Citizenship ceremonies – Christchurch. 20 May 2025.

Emmie and Hero attended. Good promotion for CMC with our banner in place at the door.

## **Upcoming**

- CMC AGM. Thursday 26 June. 6.30 pm.  
Upper Riccarton Library, Meeting Room 3. – to be confirmed  
Last minutes and Agenda Notice will be sent out two weeks before - next week  
Reporting – election - Cake cutting – snacks. We shall have a guest speaker.
- CMC Constitution being revised for submission to the Incorporated Societies Office.  
To be presented at AGM after feedback from members.  
Canterbury community law will support to review the constitution.
- Local Elections 2025 – voters’ enrollment, candidates’ nomination, candidates’ election forum.  
CCC election officer – we shall invite them and talk at AGM.  
Forum – candidates preferably migrants talk about vision etc.
- Other projects/activities: Sports Day with Netball Centre and Sports Canterbury.  
Planning in progress
- Sports day

## **9. Women Council Projects**

- Bollywood Dance Fitness Classes. Started on Saturday 8 March. Lincoln Event Centre and Pioneer Stadium.
- Self-Defense course – to be planned.
- Cross-cultural parenting workshops – to be planned.

## **10. Members’ reports.**

Farah – nil.

Emmie – Chinese festival - 2<sup>nd</sup> largest Dragon Boat Festival - historical celebration, reunion of families - dumpling etc. Will be held next weekend.

Tulasna – Big festival 16 of Aug at Tūranga. On 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug: Nepalese Women’s Day – dance, beautiful costume etc. Trying to create own facility centre – for over 50 somewhere to go, for kids to do lots of things. Need fixed location recreation centre – long term plan.

Jennifer – Taipei for two months, then attended Oceanian conference. Attended a multicultural festival on Sunday.

Nancy – Malaysian Hari Raya. Beautiful costume etc at Hagley Netball Centre - large number attended.  
Last weekend breast cancer support event.

Naomi – will share the tool for constitution builder. Youth member planning their gathering to unite. Planning to have a workshop/seminar re receiving pension in NZ – in relation to pension in Japan.

## **11. General matters – Nil**

**Meeting closed 9:15pm.**