



**Government
of South Australia**

**South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs
Commission
2018-19 Annual Report**

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MULTICULTURAL AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS
COMMISSION**

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Date presented to Minister: 27 September 2019

To:

Hon Steven Marshall MP, Premier of South Australia
Multicultural Affairs

This annual report is to be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

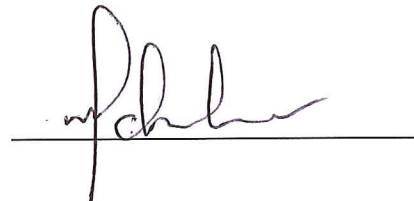
Submitted on behalf of the SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MULTICULTURAL AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION by:

Mr Norman Schueler OAM

Chair, South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission

Date 27th September 2019

Signature

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'N Schueler', written over a horizontal line.

From the Chair



For half a century South Australia has been an example to the rest of the nation and indeed the world, as a place where hundreds of thousands of people from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds can live together in a peaceful and harmonious environment.

There is no question that the advent of Australia's post-war immigration has been an enormous benefit to our nation and our state.

In the early post-war years, migration was largely viewed from the perspective of providing an economic dividend through a new source of labour, skills and technical expertise that was lacking in Australia at the end of World War II.

But by the late 1960s, migration was also seen as providing an equally important social and cultural dividend that has come from people of different cultures and faiths maintaining and sharing their customs, traditions and cuisine.

The celebration of this diversity is the glue that holds communities together. It is the lived experience which gives rise to intercultural understanding and underpins community harmony.

In recent decades, the one-way path of migration has evolved into a two-way highway of trade, commerce, cultural exchanges, and an overseas student sector, between South Australia and the countries where many of our migrants come from. In fact, our migrant business owners have been excellent ambassadors for our state, especially in their country of origin and often successfully opening new markets for South Australia's goods, services and acumen.

We should not underestimate the potential prosperity and closer cultural ties that come from stronger engagement with these nations.

The changing patterns of immigration give rise to a changing face of South Australia and creates new opportunities. What remains constant, however, is the aspirational drive among migrants to provide better opportunities for their families and better futures for their communities.

Cultural diversity is an essential feature of multiculturalism. But multiculturalism is about much more than cultural diversity. We have multiculturalism when we add to our cultural diversity the other essential ingredients of intercultural understanding, respect and sharing.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reflect on the incident that occurred in Christchurch earlier this year. In the wake of the massacre, I attended with members of our Commission the vigil held at Marion Mosque, where I addressed the gathering of people that had united from across our diverse community. The response to the incident sent an important message to us all – we must treat each other with respect and dignity and reject hatred and violence in our society.

In South Australia we are blessed to have enormous goodwill and support for multiculturalism and an acknowledgment of how our ethnic communities have enriched our state.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norman Schueler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'N' and a long, sweeping underline.

Mr Norman Schueler OAM

Chair

South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission

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Overview: about the Commission

Our vision

To achieve an open, inclusive, cohesive and equitable multicultural society, where cultural, linguistic, religious and productive diversity is understood, valued and supported.

Our role

The South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission (SAMEAC) is a statutory body, which was established under the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980*. Members, whose collective skills assist the work of SAMEAC, are drawn from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

The primary functions of the Commission are to:

- increase awareness and understanding of the ethnic diversity of the South Australian community and the implications of that diversity
- advise the Government and public authorities on, and assist them in, all matters relating to the advancement of multiculturalism and ethnic affairs.

Meetings of the Commission

In 2018-19, SAMEAC met on the following dates:

- 27 July 2018
- 5 October 2018
- 30 November 2018
- 1 February 2019
- 22 March 2019
- 24 May 2019

Attendance at South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission meetings in 2018-19.

Commission member	Meetings	Attended
Mr Norman Schueler OAM (Chair)	6	6
Mrs Antonietta Cocchiaro OAM (Deputy Chair)	6	5
Mrs Laura Adzanku	6	6
Mr George Chin	6	5
Ms Adriana Christopoulos	6	5
*Cav Maria Maglieri	6	5
Dr Sridhar Nannapaneni	6	6
Ms Thuy Phan	6	6
Dr Valdis Tomanis	6	5
Mr Muhama Yotham	6	5
Dr Ning Zhang	6	3
Mr Ahmed Zreika	6	6
Mr Mario Romaldi (Resigned)	1	1

* Cav Maria Maglieri commenced her appointment as a Commission member on 19 November 2018

Our Commission members

Mr Norman Schueler OAM

Chair



His knowledge of the Jewish community and his extensive business experience are valuable qualities to assist the Commission in its work.

Mr Schueler, who was born in the United Kingdom, arrived in Australia in April 1966. In 1984, he founded Normetals, a scrap metal and steel sales business. Mr Schueler has travelled extensively and regularly to China to establish a flourishing import/export business.

Actively involved in the Jewish community, Mr Schueler is a past President of the South Australian Jewish Youth Council and the B'nai B'rith Youth Organisation.

He has been President of the Jewish Community Council SA since 1994, Vice President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, and was a former Director of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, as well as being a director of numerous companies.

Mr Schueler is currently a Director of the National Australia Day Council.

Mrs Antonietta Cocchiaro OAM

Deputy Chair



Mrs Cocchiaro's extensive experience and knowledge of the education sector, from her work as a school principal to her experience in education policy and governance, will bring valuable insights to the deliberations of the Commission.

Mrs Cocchiaro has been a member of the Ethnic Schools Board, the Multicultural Education Coordinating Committee, and the Coordinating Italian Committee – Education Sub-Committee.

Mrs Cocchiaro was a finalist in the 1996 Italian Lions Italian of the Year Award.

She is a recipient of the ACEL: Educational Leadership Medal Award 2010 and the Alby Jones Gold Medal Award 2012.

Mrs Laura Adzanku



Mrs Adzanku's work with the African Communities Council of South Australia as a settlement officer back in 2008 ignited her passion for working with CALD communities.

Mrs Adzanku has established an extensive network within several CALD communities and actively participates and supports various community initiatives that build community capacity. She is an active supporter of the annual African Festival and a familiar face at many community events.

Mrs Adzanku volunteered with the African Women's Federation of South Australia as the public relations officer. She is currently a member of the Council for Migrant and Refugee Women of SA and sits on the advisory committee of the MUSES Project SA: Multicultural and settlement services supporting women experiencing violence.

As a community support and liaison officer at PEACE Multicultural Services, Relationships Australia SA, Mrs Adzanku has been successful in pioneering a number of community projects addressing health and wellbeing issues prevalent within CALD communities. She is a financial counsellor and family dispute resolution practitioner.

In 2014, Mrs Adzanku was the winner of the Governor's Multicultural Award in the Community Sector (Individual) category. She was also a recipient of the African Australian Community Champions Award in 2014.

Mr George Chin



Mr Chin has been actively involved in social, commercial and community work since migrating to Australia in 1992.

He has operated a Wendy's Franchise and an Espresso Coffee shop in Chinatown for many years, along with other businesses, and now runs the Chinatown Lotteries.

Mr Chin is a founding member of the Central Market Precinct Association, and a former President and current Vice Present of Chinatown Adelaide of SA.

He has been an ambassador of the OzAsia Festival since its inception in 2010.

Since 2013, Mr Chin has been an Honorary Advisor to the Oceania Federation of Chinese Organisations from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos Incorporated.

Ms Adriana Christopoulos



Ms Christopoulos holds an Honours Degree in International Studies from the University of Adelaide which she obtained as a mature age student while raising a young family.

She has been involved with many community groups and continues to represent the community as an elected member for the City of Mitcham and previously for the City of West Torrens.

Ms Christopoulos has worked in both state and local government, and her focus has been in the area of governance and policy, and now in the area of economic development and grant funding.

Ms Christopoulos has also served on the Australia Day Council from 2008 until 2015 and chaired the Council from 2013-2015.

Cav Maria Maglieri

CEO Maglieri Group



Growing up on the family vineyard in the heart of McLaren Vale, Maria Maglieri was always destined for a life in wine. Coupled with tours of the great wine regions of the world, Maria was inspired to follow her father and mentor, Serafino (Steve) Maglieri into the family business.

With a superior wine knowledge gained from more than 20 years' experience, Maria has thrived as CEO of the Maglieri Group including Serafino Wines, Serafino McLaren Vale Hotel, McLaren Vale Bottlers and property investments. Under her strong management skills and marketing flair, Serafino has been endorsed as a leading wine brand of South Australia and in export markets, in addition a tourism destination for its unique offering of an onsite winery, cellar door, accommodation, restaurant and events centre in the hub of McLaren Vale.

Maria's achievements have been recognised locally and globally; the South Australian Business Ambassador in 2006, nominated for the Telstra Business Woman of the Year in 2010, named the 2012 Molisana Business Woman of the World in Italy and recently awarded the title "Cavaliere", Order of Merit of the Italian Republic in 2018 for her contribution to the Italian community and Women in business.

Maria serves as a volunteer of the Molise Associazione Adelaide SA, member of the McLaren Vale Grape Wine Tourism Association, including Board member 2013 – 2016 and is an advocate for working women and mothers in business.



Dr Sridhar Nannapaneni

Dr Neni is a committed Indian community leader and successful dentist in South Australia.

He is passionate about helping migrants.

Dr Neni has sponsored many Indian community organisations and provided migrants and new arrivals with assistance with health and dental needs.

Dr Neni is experienced in providing a range of advice on policy issues, preparing policy reports and briefings, undertaking research and analysis, and creating relationships with key stakeholders.



Ms Thuy Phan

Ms Phan arrived in Australia as a Vietnamese refugee, via boat at age 13 with her parents, two brothers and two sisters.

After graduating from Edith Cowan University in Western Australia with a Bachelor of Science (Nursing), Ms Phan has been working in aged care for over 26 years.

Ms Phan currently works for the ACH group (aged care) and is committed to assisting other culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, clients and loved ones to make the transition from home to residential care as homely as possible and accessing community services as needed.

Ms Phan has strong leadership skills, extensive clinical, management background in the health and aged care sectors, having worked in various leadership roles within aged care including as Chief Executive Officer at a CALD aged care provider.

Ms Phan is currently working in partnership with various CALD communities to further facilitate their understanding of the aged care industry.

Dr Valdis Tomanis



Dr Tomanis was born in a refugee camp in Regensburg, Germany, in 1947 and arrived in Adelaide at the age of 18 months.

He was in private practice as a dental surgeon for almost 47 years before retiring in August 2016.

Dr Tomanis has spent a large part of his life within the Latvian community – Latvian school, scouts, basketball, folk dancing, performing in the Latvian theatre as well as a committee member of the Adelaide Latvian Students Society.

He is a life member of the Latvian Association of Adelaide (including 10 years as vice-president to Bruno Krumins OAM).

In 1994, Dr Tomanis was one of the foundation members of the Latvian Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Australia and has been their president for the last nine years.

Mr Muhama Yotham



Mr Yotham is a Senior Pastor at the Amazing Grace Gospel Church.

He has extensive experience over the past 12 years working with refugees and migrants through the Australian Migrant Resource Centre, the Refugee Council of Australia, the Australian Refugee Association, African Communities Council of South Australia and The Burundian Community Association of South Australia.

Mr Yotham's current work as a Community Development Worker with Uniting Communities is now concentrated in the New & Emerging Communities program which falls under the City of Playford's Community for Children program.

Mr Yotham works closely with new migrants to help them access quality education and improving health and wellbeing in order to build a sustainable life for themselves and their children in Australia.

Dr Ning Zhang



Dr Zhang is the Director of the Confucius Institute, and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Asian Studies at The University of Adelaide.

Dr Zhang is an ambassador of OzAsia Festival, former President of the Asia Pacific Business Council for Women SA, and a current Member of the SA Chinese Culture and Trade Promotion Association.

Dr Zhang is also an accredited Translator in English and Chinese Languages (both directions).

Dr Zhang conducts research in history and the state of education in China, and comparative studies in vocational education.

She has also published work on teaching the Chinese language.

Mr Ahmed Zreika



Mr Zreika is the General Director and Co-founder of his family business, ZLA Pty Ltd.

He is the current (since 2015) President of the Islamic Society of SA, the current Principal and Business Manager of the Al-Salam Arabic School, and the current Chairperson and founder of the Al-Salam Festival.

The highly successful Al-Salam Festival's purpose is to create awareness of the Muslim community and Islam, through providing entertainment, food and informative activities that allow people to grasp a general perspective of the religion and address any queries they may have.

Mr Mario Romaldi resigned from his membership on the Commission on 1 August 2018.

The Commission's performance

Performance at a glance

- 62 events attended by Chair, South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission
- 164 events attended by Commission members
- Six Commission meetings

Parliamentary receptions

In 2018-19, Premier Steven Marshall MP hosted several receptions at Parliament House, which were attended by Commission members.

Receptions were held in honour of:

- Diwali Reception – 5 November 2018
- Dimitria Greek Festival Reception – 19 November 2018
- Hellenic Presidential Guards Reception – 24 April 2019
- World Africa Day – 21 May 2019
- Italian National Day – 23 May 2019
- Mark end of Ramadan – 12 June 2019

Commission meeting highlights

The Commission held six meetings during 2018-19. Highlights of these meetings included supporting the office of Multicultural Affairs' (Department of the Premier and Cabinet) review of the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980*, a presentation from the Honourable Bruce Lander QC, Independent Commissioner Against Corruption (ICAC), and engaging with Mr Grant Stevens, Commissioner of Police, about policing and culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Supporting the Multicultural Legislative Review 2019

The Commission supported the office of Multicultural Affairs review of the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980*, which is South Australia's key piece of multicultural legislation

In 2018-19, the office of Multicultural Affairs (Department of the Premier and Cabinet) undertook a review of the Act to inform the development of new legislation.

Multicultural Affairs undertook an extensive community and stakeholder consultation process over seven weeks from 15 April 2019 to 3 June 2019.

Six community forums were held in metropolitan and regional South Australia, as well as a targeted workshop for key stakeholders across business, government and the not-for-profit sector.

Commission members supported the review by attending the community forums and a stakeholder workshop, to support community participation.

Up to 10 members of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission joined one or more community forums and/or the key stakeholder workshop in order to assist and observe the discussions.

More information is available on the Multicultural Affairs website at <https://dpc.sa.gov.au/responsibilities/multicultural-affairs/policy/multicultural-legislative-review>.

Parliamentary Forum on ‘Understanding of Language and Extremism’

On the 19 June 2019, the Honourable Jing Lee, MLC, Assistant Minister to the Premier and the Honourable Michelle Lensink, MLC, Minister for Human Services hosted a Parliamentary Forum on *Understanding of Language and Extremism*.

The main objective of the Parliamentary Forum was to inform Members of Parliament, staff and SAMEAC about effective languages and narratives that can be used to counter racism and extremism, and to help advance intercultural understanding and build bridges within a diverse society in South Australia.

The Parliamentary Forum featured a keynote address by one of Australia’s most prominent and respected Muslim leaders, Professor Mohamad Abdalla, Director of the Centre of Islamic Thought and Education, University of South Australia.

The Parliamentary Forum provided the guidelines to scope out an engagement process for the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission to deliver a similar forum to the community in 2019-20, in conjunction with the office of Multicultural Affairs.

The planned community forum will present an opportunity for invited guest speakers to share their valuable insights, knowledge and lessons learned, and encourage more objective, balanced, inclusive and accurate language when reporting on culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities.

Supporting the Governor’s Multicultural Awards

SAMEAC once again supported and promoted the Governor’s Multicultural Awards in 2018-19. These important awards recognise and celebrate South Australians who promote multiculturalism and increase the understanding of the benefits of cultural diversity in our community.

An independent panel of nine judges, chaired by His Honour Judge Rauf Soulio was assembled to assess the nominations and determine the finalists and winners of the 2018 Governor’s Multicultural Awards. Two of the judges were SAMEAC members, Mrs Antonietta Cocchiara OAM and Dr Valdis Tomanis.

His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia, announced the winners of the 2018 Governor’s Multicultural Awards at an award ceremony at Government House on Tuesday, 26 March 2019. Twelve award recipients were chosen from 24 finalists across nine award categories.

Chair of SAMEAC, Norman Schueler OAM, delivered the Vote of Thanks at the end of the official proceedings.

Further information about the Governor's Multicultural Awards, which are administered by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet through Multicultural Affairs, is available by visiting <https://dpc.sa.gov.au/responsibilities/multicultural-affairs/events/the-governors-multicultural-awards>.

Policing for a Multicultural Society Awards

The Policing for a Multicultural Society Award was initiated by SAMEAC in 2009. In 2018-19, SAMEAC members presented the Policing for a Multicultural Society Award, which is given to a police cadet in each graduating recruit course. The award is given to the cadet from each course who shows the highest level of appreciation and understanding of migrant, refugee and cultural diversity issues relating to policing.

Recipients of the Policing for a Multicultural Society Award in 2018-19 were:

- Dennis Allely
- Rebecca Hynes
- Ashlee Belmonte
- Daniel Cowley
- Amanda Todd
- Joshua Foster
- George Bellas
- Leon La Posta
- Andrea Fiebig

Appendix 1: Freedom of Information

Freedom of Information Statement

In order to conform to the requirements of Section 9 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*, the following statement has been prepared and is presented as part of the Commission's Annual Report.

Functions

The main functions of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission are defined in Section (12) of the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980*.

Interaction with the Public

The Commission does not provide direct client services. The Commission, in fulfilling its statutory objectives, interacts with the public through consultations and forums. Information obtained in this way assists the Commission's strategic planning and forms the basis of policy advice to the Government on multicultural issues.

Constitution of Commission

The Commission consists of not more than 15 members appointed by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, of whom:

- one must be appointed to chair the Commission; and
- at least four must be men and four women.

Documents

A number of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission's documents (such as the Annual Report) may be viewed, free of charge, by arrangement with the Freedom of Information Officer.

Access

Requests relating to access to other documents should be carried out in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* and outlined on the State Records of South Australia website at www.archives.sa.gov.au.

Requests should be accompanied by the Freedom of Information Access Fee (if applicable) and directed in writing to:

FOI Officer

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

GPO Box 2343

ADELAIDE SA 5001

Email DPCFOIunit@sa.gov.au