

FECCA

# e-News

## WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER EDITION OF FECCA E-NEWS, ISSUE 10, 2019



### Message from FECCA Chairperson, Ms Mary Patetsos

Welcome to the tenth issue of FECCA e-News for 2019. After months of preparation, the FECCA 2019 Conference took place earlier this month in Hobart. It was a resounding success and I was incredibly proud of the diversity reflected in each panel. We featured sessions on everything from healthy ageing in CALD communities, to how art unites people across cultures.

We want to thank all our delegates for their participation in what was one of our biggest conferences to date. We had over 500 guests attending from across Australia, including over 100 scholarship recipients.

I wish to especially thank our diverse range of speakers who gave presentations on everything from healthy ageing to how art unites us across cultures. We were also honoured by the presence of Senator Hon. Eric Abetz, Senator Kristina Keneally, Senator Di Natale, and Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Andrew Giles.

This conference would not have been possible without the generous support of the Tasmanian Government and our sponsors; SBS, NBN, Commonwealth Bank, SSI, and many more. We look forward to working with you all again in future.

For those who attended, there is still time to complete your feedback survey! Make sure you let us know what you enjoyed and what we improve so our next conference in 2021 is even more inclusive and relevant to you.

Together with the FECCA Board and Secretariat, I wish you an insightful reading of the tenth edition of FECCA e-news for 2019. We thoroughly enjoy your continued support and hard work as we all work to ensure Australia remains a harmonious, inclusive and prosperous multicultural society.

**Mary Patetsos**

Chairperson

**Federation of Ethnic Communities'  
Councils of Australia (FECCA)**

# FECCA 2019 Conference Highlights



## Events attended by FECCA staff

FECCA staff attended the National RAP Conference 2019 in Perth. The conference was organised by Reconciliation Australia in collaboration with Reconciliation WA and Curtin University. It focused on how organisations can implement their RAPs in an informed manner that aligns with their own goals.



FECCA CEO met with the Race Discrimination Commissioner, Chin Tan, to discuss the significance of intercultural harmony and Australia's increasingly changing cultural landscape.



FECCA staff attended the Federation of Equatoria Communities Association in Australia Conference in Adelaide. FECCA represents the Equatorial communities from South Sudan in Australia.



FECCA CEO and Chair attended the Migration and Settlement Awards hosted by the Migration Council.



FECCA staff attended the launch of MARSS Australia's new brand held in Canberra.





In October 2019 FECCA made the following submissions and reports:

**Community-Driven English Language Programs**

**Reconciliation Action Plan**

**FECCA submission – Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Cessation) Bill 2019**



## In October 2019 FECCA made the following press releases:

### **FECCA welcomes Labor's caucus committee on multicultural affairs**

FECCA has welcomed the announcement by the Labor Party that it will create a new caucus committee on multicultural affairs to help shape the party's policies that affect culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) Australians.

### **Dementia research must include CALD Australians**

FECCA has called for more funding to be provided for dementia research, so that the experiences of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) Australians are not excluded from research and clinical trials.

### **FECCA expresses condolences at passing of Aged Care Royal Commission chair Richard Tracey**

FECCA has expressed its condolences after learning of the passing of Aged Care Royal Commission chair Richard Tracey.

### **Women lead as FECCA welcomes newly elected board**

FECCA has elected a new board at its AGM in Hobart, with women securing the top three positions in the organisation. Mary Patetsos was re-elected as Chairperson, entering what will be her second term. The two Senior Deputy Chairperson positions were won by CR Kris Pavlidis (Vic) and Hina Durrani (Tas).

### **FECCA welcomes Ministerial Forum on Multicultural Affairs and launches Reconciliation Action Plan**

FECCA has welcomed the announcement by Queensland Minister for Multicultural Affairs Stirling Hinchliffe that Queensland will host a Ministerial Forum for Multicultural Affairs in 2020. The Forum will be the first of what FECCA hopes will become a regular, standing series of forums to be shared between the states.

### **Conference to shape the future of multicultural Australia kicks off in Hobart**

The 2019 FECCA National Conference kicks off today, with around 500 leaders from Australia's diverse multicultural communities converging on Hobart for the two-day event. The conference, titled PURPOSE. LEADERSHIP. PROGRESS: 40 years and beyond, will put in place a strategy for advancing the cause of multiculturalism over the coming years.

### **Australia must stop discriminating against refugees with disabilities**

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities last week released its findings regarding Australia's compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, recommending a number of changes be made relating to the treatment of refugees with disabilities.

## Victoria



ECCCV's Intercultural Young Advocacy Leaders (IYAL) Group invites young people and decision-makers to a unique networking and capacity-building forum: *Why We Matter: Voices of Young Advocacy Leaders in Multicultural Victoria*. Participants will work together to identify opportunities and challenges for young people for planning their future and achieving their goals. The forum is designed to build capacity for young people through training workshops, info-sharing sessions and guest speaker presentations. The outcomes from the day will help design practical solutions to gaps in the youth services sector. Join us this Thursday 24 October 2019, 10am – 3pm at the Multicultural Hub. Find out more and register [here](#).



*Frog Drum*, a book celebrating the creation of a spectacular water feature that was jointly designed by Karen, Karenni and Aboriginal Elders at Diversitat's Healthy Living Centre in Geelong, is available for purchase from Diversitat Aged Support.

For more information or to purchase a copy of *Frog Drum* call (03) 5222 7275 or email [aged.support@diversitat.org.au](mailto:aged.support@diversitat.org.au)

Proceeds will go toward a range of social support groups delivered by Diversitat Aged Support for people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Diversitat is a not-for-profit charitable community service organisation.

## South Australia



### **Let's Build a Welcoming City Together - A Conversation with the City of Adelaide & Successful Communities**

Join us for this exciting conversation with the City of Adelaide about ways we can thrive together and build a welcoming city.

Share ideas, thoughts, hopes, dreams, visions of what a welcoming city looks like for our communities and their members! The start of a great conversation and opportunities in 2020.

There are two sessions for Multicultural Communities:

**Wednesday 23rd October 10am-12noon**

**Tuesday 29th October 5-7pm**



The 2019 conference theme is: Harnessing Community for Effective Action and is about exploring the ways in which the power of community can be harnessed to drive systemic change at the local and national level.

The conference offers attendees the opportunity to participate in key learning and development opportunities, to be a part of an important knowledge exchange as well as the opportunity to network with representatives from the sector, government and business with shared interests.

[Register here.](#)



Hundreds of decision-makers, thought leaders, influencers, and practitioners from government, civil society and the private sector will gather at Western Sydney University for the 3rd Advancing Community Cohesion Conference – The Way Forward.

The Conference, from 10-13 February 2020, will provide leaders with the opportunity to discuss challenges confronting social cohesion and community resilience and explore ways to more effectively address them by considering social, economic, cultural, legal, religious, and sexual/gender identity dimensions and perspective

[Register here](#)

# 2019 Victorian Interfaith Networks Conference

The Faith Communities Council of Victoria, in association with the Interfaith Network of the City of Greater Dandenong, and the City of Greater Dandenong, would like to invite you to the 2019 Victorian Interfaith Networks Conference on Sunday, November 17th 2018 at the Springvale City Hall.



To register for the event go to [vinc.eventbrite.com.au](http://vinc.eventbrite.com.au) and click on the green Register button. The conference is also an opportunity for the Interfaith Network of the City of Greater Dandenong to celebrate and mark 30 years of interfaith engagement within the local community and beyond. [More here.](#)



# STAKEHOLDER UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

## MIGRANT EMPLOYMENT LEGAL SERVICE

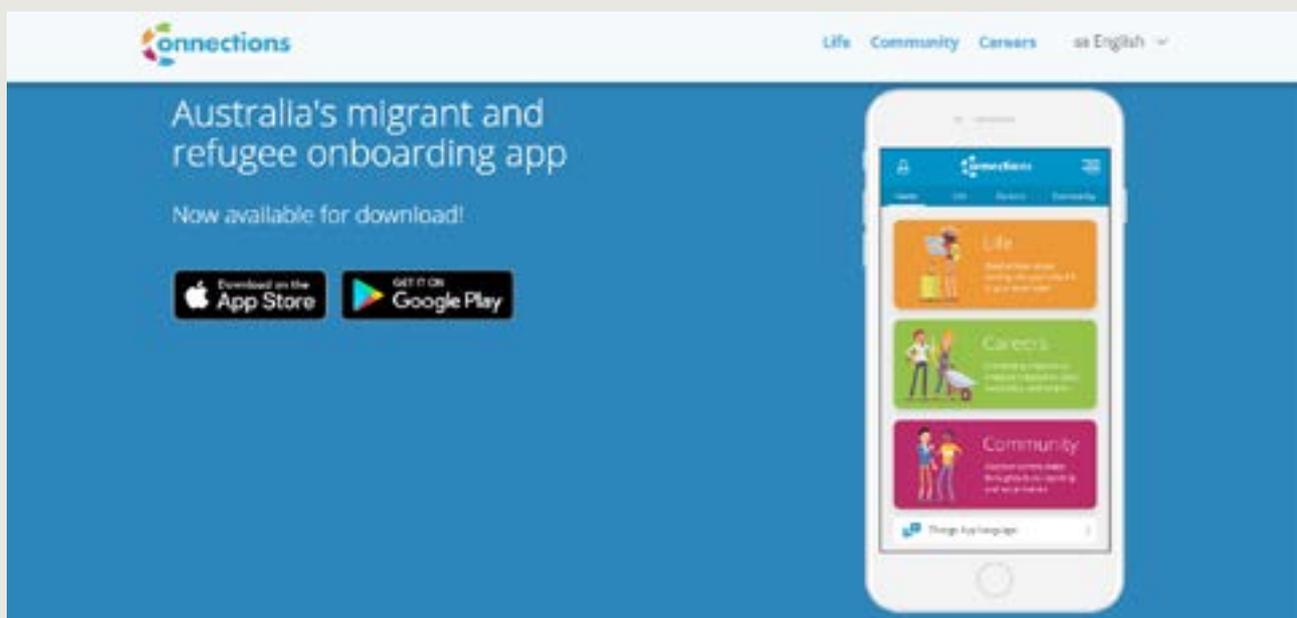
### FREE CONFIDENTIAL LEGAL HELP

The Inner City Legal Centre, Kingsford Legal Centre, Marrickville Legal Centre and Redfern Legal Centre have established a new statewide service to provide free and confidential legal help to migrant workers

employment. The Migrant Employment Legal Service (MELS) seeks to address the employment exploitation of migrant workers by providing legal advice, legal representation and engaging with communities to provide information and education. These matters may include unfair dismissal, underpayment claims, discrimination and employment contract disputes.

The Migrant Employment Legal Service (MELS) is now accepting clients for free legal advice.

Migrants and temporary visa holders (including international students and refugees) from across NSW can contact the MELS on 02 8002 1203, Mondays to Fridays from 9am to 5pm, to make an appointment with a solicitor.



**Connections** is a new app developed in Australia to help migrants settle into their community, make new friends, and find employment. The app is available for download on Android and iOS devices and can be found here: <https://www.connectionsaustralia.com/en/home>

## Free Domestic and Family Violence app with a focus on financial abuse: Key information now in 5 languages



Penda

**Penda** is a national, free and simple to use app combining financial tips, safety and legal information and referrals for women who have experienced domestic and family violence.

### User safety

The safety of Penda users is paramount. Safety features include warnings prior to and after download, a lock screen game function and optional passcode access settings.

### How to download

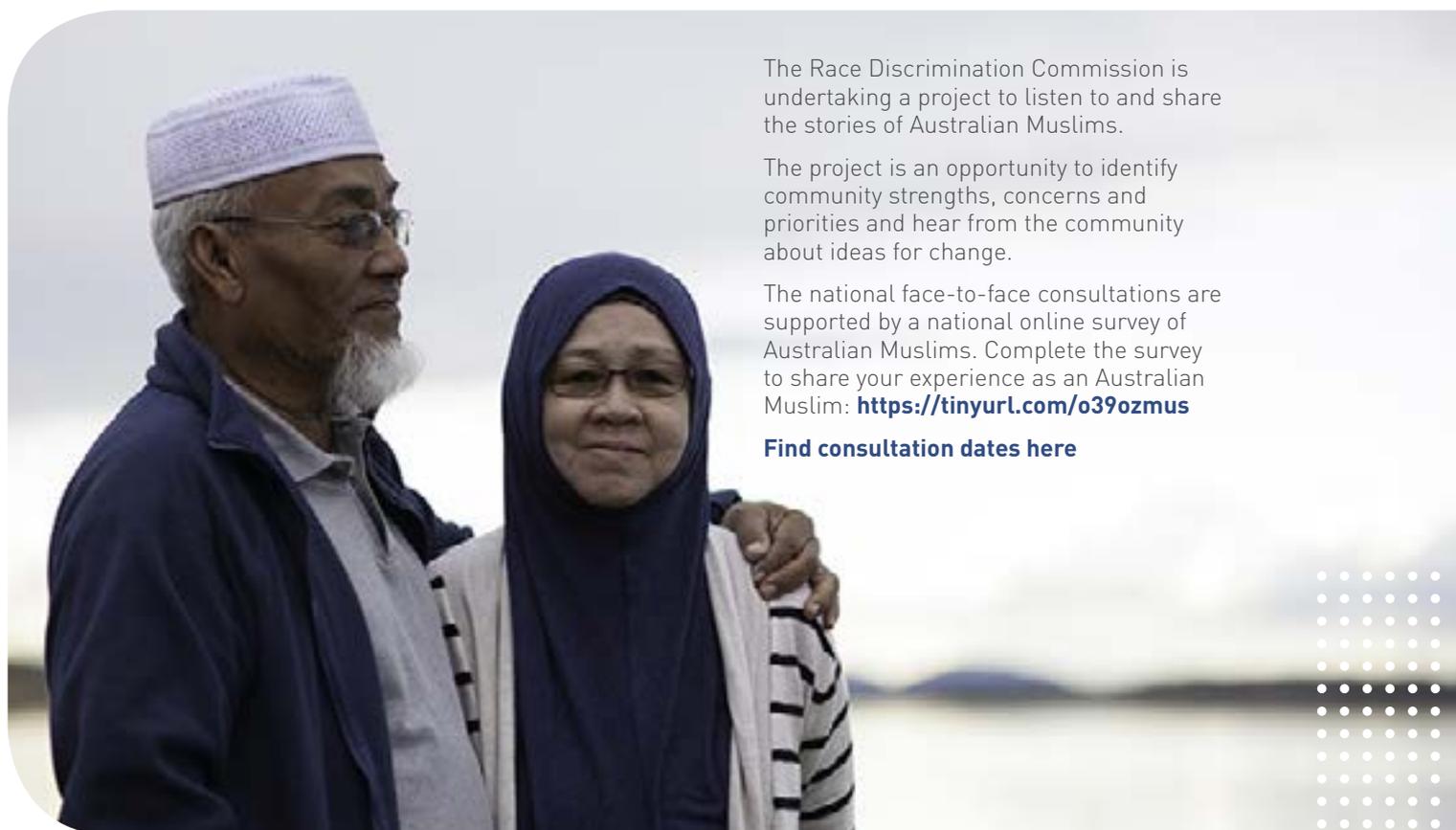
Penda can now be downloaded free from the App Store and Google Play Store. For more information visit <https://penda-app.com/>.

### We need feedback

We welcome feedback to better understand Penda users' needs and experiences. It would be of huge assistance helping us to optimise Penda if you and members of your organisation could complete a quick online survey. Feedback may be submitted in the app or emailed to: [penda@wlsq.org.au](mailto:penda@wlsq.org.au).

### Funding

Penda was developed by Women's Legal Service Queensland in collaboration with Financial Rights Legal Centre with funding from Financial Literacy Australia. The translation was made possible by funding from the Australian Office for Women.



The Race Discrimination Commission is undertaking a project to listen to and share the stories of Australian Muslims.

The project is an opportunity to identify community strengths, concerns and priorities and hear from the community about ideas for change.

The national face-to-face consultations are supported by a national online survey of Australian Muslims. Complete the survey to share your experience as an Australian Muslim: <https://tinyurl.com/o39ozmus>

**Find consultation dates here**

# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MULTICULTURAL SECTOR

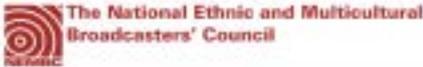
FECCA e-News aims to keep our readers updated on career opportunities in the multicultural sector. Please contact [shahnoor@fecca.org.au](mailto:shahnoor@fecca.org.au) if you wish to advertise an employment opportunity in our monthly newsletter.



FECCA is currently seeking a full time Director of Policy and Advocacy. [Find details here.](#)



Settlement Services International has a range of job opportunities, [click here](#) for more information.



The National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters Council would like to help facilitate better access for ethnic community broadcasters to develop employment pathways to the ABC or mainstream media. The long-term goal is to improve media representation and diversity in Australian media. The NEMBC sees this as a long-term project and believe that ethnic community broadcasters need to be supported if they enter a mainstream media position. To find out more visit [www.nembc.org.au](http://www.nembc.org.au).

# GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

FECCA e-News aims to keep our readers updated on grant opportunities in the multicultural sector. Please contact [janecke@fecca.org.au](mailto:janecke@fecca.org.au) if you wish to promote local, state and federal grants.



The Grant Opportunity List contains all current federal grant opportunities from a range of Departments that are open for application.

[Click here](#) to view the list.



## **Fostering Integration Grants 2019- 2020 (closing 5 November 2019)**

The Australian Government has announced a total of \$2.3 million for the 2019-20 Fostering Integration Grants, for grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$60,000.

The Fostering Integration Grants aim to facilitate the participation, integration and social cohesion of both newly arrived migrants and culturally diverse communities in Australia.

The intended outcome of the program is to contribute to an integrated and cohesive multicultural Australia where migrants can actively participate and feel welcome in the Australian society.

## Publish in FECCA's e-News

FECCA's monthly electronic newsletter is produced to keep our members, constituents and interested parties up-to-date with FECCA's activities, to discuss key issues and to disseminate information about news, updates and events in the multicultural sector. FECCA's e-News reaches a large national network of followers representing the many migrant communities in Australia. You can have your organisation's news included in FECCA's e-News and reach a large and diverse community in Australia as well as politicians, organisations in the field and other stakeholders. Please contact Shahnoor Shah on [shahnoor@fecca.org.au](mailto:shahnoor@fecca.org.au) for further details.



## Advertise in Australian Mosaic

FECCA publishes its national magazine, *Australian Mosaic*, three times a year. *Australian Mosaic* is a plain English magazine, which presents a wide range of contemporary issues associated with multiculturalism, social justice, community harmony, and cultural and faith pluralism in Australia. *Australian Mosaic* is intended to be of interest to a wide readership and publishes a range of perspectives on selected themes. By advertising in the *Australian Mosaic* your organisation or business will reach a large and diverse migrant community in Australia as well as stakeholders and organisations in the sector. Contact Dr Janecke Wille on [janecke@fecca.org.au](mailto:janecke@fecca.org.au) to discuss opportunities and pricing.



## Stay informed about FECCA's news and activities

FECCA encourages you to sign up on our mailing list to stay informed about FECCA's work as well as other events, developments and activities in the sector. Contact Dr Janecke Wille on [janecke@fecca.org.au](mailto:janecke@fecca.org.au) or find the [link](#) at our website to be added to FECCA's mailing list.

