

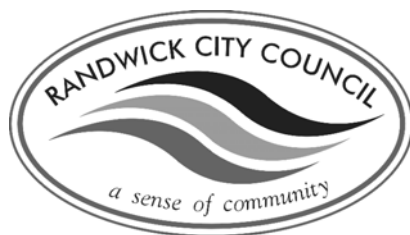
# **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

## **BUSINESS PAPER**

**TUESDAY 10 JUNE 2008**

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3 June 2008

## COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given that a Community Services Committee of the Council of the City of Randwick will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 90 Avoca Street, Randwick, on Tuesday, 10 June 2008 at 5:30pm.

Committee Members: The Mayor, B Notley-Smith, Belleli, Hughes, Matson, Nash, Procopiadis (Deputy Chairperson), Woodsmith (Chairperson).

Quorum: Four (4) members.

NOTE: At the Extraordinary Meeting held on 28 September 2004, the Council resolved that the Community Services Committee be constituted as a committee with full delegation to determine matters on the agenda.

### Apologies/Granting of Leave of Absences

### Confirmation of the Minutes

Community Services Committee - 13 May 2008

### Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

### Address of Committee by Members of the Public

### Urgent Business

### Community Services Report

C6/08 Refugee Week 2008 ..... 1

### Library Reports

Nil

### Closed Session

Nil

### Notices of Rescission Motions

Nil

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Ray Brownlee  
GENERAL MANAGER



## Community Services Report No. C6/08



**Subject:** Refugee Week 2008  
**Folder No:** F2004/07704  
**Author:** Shane Lowe, Coordinator Community Programs and Partnerships

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### Introduction

This year Refugee Week will be held from 15 June to 21 June 2008 under the auspice of the Refugee Council of Australia. World Refugee Day is celebrated on 20 June. The theme for 2008 is "A place to call home" which encourages people to think about global issues of protection and human rights, by focusing on the fundamental right to a secure place to call home. It encourages Australians to think about our common obligations to people who have no secure home, as well as to acknowledge the 700,000 refugees and humanitarian entrants over the past 60 years, who have made Australia home.

Council's Multicultural Advisory Committee supports a refugee week event to reflect the above stated theme. An event is being organised by Community Programs and Partnerships and the Library.

### Issues

This report recommends that council hold the following activities to celebrate Refugee Week.

#### a) Displaying Banner Supporting Refugee Week

It is recommended that Council display two banners across Randwick City during Refugee Week. The wording on the banner reads "Randwick City Council supports Refugee Week".

#### b) Panel discussion by refugees

It is proposed to hold a discussion evening with four speakers talking about both their personal experiences and the plight of refugees from World War 11 to the present time who settled in Sydney and in Randwick City. The speakers will include a holocaust survivor, Polish immigrant and author, Vietnamese representative talking about boat people and a recent Afghani refugee. This event will be held in the Bowen Library on Tuesday 17 June from 6.30pm to 8.30pm and open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided.

### Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 2: Vibrant and diverse community.

Directions 2b: Enrich our range of community services that meet our community's needs.

### Financial impact statement

The financial impact to Council is \$1,000 and this amount has been budgeted in the 2007/8 Community Programs and Partnerships budget. There will be no further costs to Council.

**Conclusion**

Randwick City became a "Refugee Welcome Zone" in 2006. By celebrating Refugee Week this year, Council continues to demonstrate its commitment to and acknowledgement of Randwick City's culturally diverse community. Historically, Randwick City played a major role in accommodating refugees in hostels in the 1950s and many former refugees have made Randwick City their home.

**Recommendation**

That Council endorse:

- (a) the public forum talks by refugees.
- (b) the display of two banners during Refugee Week at sites across Randwick City.

**Attachment/s:**

Nil

**Item C6/08**