



Community Relations Commission

For a multicultural NSW

PO Box A2618, SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235

Website: www.crc.nsw.gov.au

A brief introduction to the COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION For a multicultural NSW

The Community Relations Commission (CRC) For a Multicultural NSW was established by Parliament, through the Community Relations and Principles of Multiculturalism Act 2000.

The Community Relations and Principles of Multiculturalism Act 2000 recognises and values the different linguistic, religious, racial and ethnic backgrounds of residents of NSW, and promotes equal rights and responsibilities.

The CRC replaces the former Ethnic Affairs Commission of New South Wales and builds on over two decades of work of the former Commission which gained nation-wide recognition as the leading agency dealing with cultural diversity.

The CRC has nine commissioners comprising one full-time chairperson and eight part-time commissioners.

The CRC has ten Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) which identify and provide advice to the Commission on community relations and cultural diversity issues in regional areas. RACs consist of community, state and local government members and are chaired by a commissioner.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- Encourage participation of the culturally diverse background people of NSW in the social, economic and cultural life of the community
- Promote a cohesive and harmonious multicultural society with mutual respect for and understanding of cultural diversity
- Promote access and equity to government services
- Promote liaison and cooperation between bodies concerned in community affairs
- Promote the social, cultural and economic benefits of a culturally diverse society.
- Advise and recommend to the Anti-Discrimination Board

OUR FUNCTIONS

- Undertake systematic and wide-ranging consultation with people and groups
- Promote CRC objectives through advice to the government
- Investigate and report to the Minister on any matter relating to CRC objectives
- Arrange and participate in forums
- Facilitate co-operative arrangements between government, business, education and community groups
- Assist and assess the effectiveness of public authorities in observing the principles of multiculturalism in the conduct of their affairs

- Assist in resolving issues associated with cultural diversity
- Provide interpreter and translation services
- Advise the Minister on the most effective use of funds
- Support community initiatives to promote CRC objectives
- Encourage eligible people to become Australian citizens

CRC Services

Interpreting and Translation Services

Interpreters and translators of the Commission play a vital role in assisting the Commission to achieve its mission.

We provide interpreting and translation services in over 75 languages including Auslan, primarily on a user-pays basis, with exemption granted on a needs basis.

Services are available to all government departments and agencies, private and commercial organisations, community groups and individuals.

Interpreting and translating
in over 75 languages
24 hours a day
7 days a week

For bookings and further inquiries
1300 651 500
at the cost of a local call
anywhere in NSW

email: languageservices@crc.nsw.gov.au

Ethnic Affairs Priorities Statement

We oversee and support the Ethnic Affairs Priorities Statement (EAPS) program. Through EAPS all NSW government agencies are held publicly accountable for culturally, linguistically and religiously diverse communities.

We compile a comprehensive annual report to Parliament on the state of the community relations in NSW which assesses the effectiveness of agencies in observing the principles of multiculturalism.

Community Development Grants

We offer financial support to community-based organisations that undertake projects for the benefit of our multicultural community. The guidelines of the program available on the Commission website provide information on the eligibility criteria and the priority areas of funding.

Multicultural Marketing Awards

The National Multicultural Marketing Awards were established in 1990 to recognise the efforts of organisations in harnessing the benefits of cultural diversity for economic and social betterment of our society. The Awards seek out and promote profitable, successful and imaginative concepts in marketing in a multicultural society.

Publications

We publish a range of publications on the themes of cultural diversity. These include - Ethnic Affairs in the NSW Public Sector: Resource Handbook for Chief Executive Officers & Senior Managers; Community Language Allowance Scheme Handbook; Commentaries on multiculturalism.

Services via Internet

The Commission's services are available via the internet. These services include the whole range of translation services, booking of interpreters, access to ethnic media, grant applications and access to communities within NSW.

Community Language Allowance Scheme Testing (CLAS)

We organise annual testing for applicants for the CLAS which recognises the linguistic skills of government employees. The testing is also available to local government.

Video Conferencing Facilities

We have two video-conferencing studios at Stockland House, 175-183 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, to facilitate the provision of interpreters and enhance the Commission's capability to consult with individuals, groups and organisations in regional and rural NSW.

**For more information
visit our website
www.crc.nsw.gov.au**