



**IndianCare Fifth AGM Report, 2017-18**

**Presented at Annual General Meeting held on 22 September 2018**



## Minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

(reporting on IndianCare's work during 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017 and election of committee for 2017 - 18)

Held in Glen Iris, 5 – 6pm

Present: Manjit Singh, Rama Manchikanti, Anand Shome, Jaya Manchikanti, Durga Warrior, Monia Choudhary

Apologies: Geeta Devi, Asha Padiseti

- The Minutes of the third AGM were read by Durga, and moved by Jaya and seconded by Anand Shome Minutes were accepted
- Jaya presented the President's report and, in summary, noted that IndianCare is now a firmly established organisation and, during 2017 – 18, worked on a number of collaborative projects with a range of organisations, including Eastern Community Legal Centre, Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria, Australian Multicultural Community Services, Sant Nirankari Mission, Victoria University (2 student placements). IndianCare presented at the Hindu Organisations Temple Associations forum and began new projects with Alcohol and Drug Foundation and inTouch – Multicultural Centre against Family Violence. Other activities included training undertaken by members and students at Community Information Services Victoria (CisVic) on how to interview clients and refer to other services. IndianCare held important meetings with the Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Victorian Multicultural Commissioners as well as with government advisers and staff to convey the need to support a culturally sensitive welfare service for the Indian community. Jaya thanked all the key stakeholders, particularly Elizabeth Drozd at the Australian Multicultural Community Services for her continual support.

Jaya's report was moved by Durga and seconded by Ramu. Accepted.

- Finance Report: The balance at 30 June 2018 is \$5,117.41 with income of \$6,776.06 and expenditure \$1,658.65. The income was mainly from funding from Victorian Multicultural Commission and Department of Social Services, which was provided late in the financial year.

Minutes moved by Jaya and seconded Durga.

- New committee was elected for 2017 – 2018:

President – Jaya Manchikanti

Vice-President – Anand Shome

Treasurer – Rama Manchikanti

Secretary – Durga Warrior

Committee member – Monia Choudhary

Committee member – Manjit Singh

Committee member – Geeta Devi

Committee member – Asha Padiseti

Meeting closed.

## **President's report for 1 July 2017 – 30 June 2018**

Namaste! I would like to begin by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which we stand today and pay my respects to their elders past, present and future. I would also like to acknowledge and pay respect to the elders here today. To our honourable guests, Dr Sundram Sivamalai and Professor Des Cahill, welcome to you and I look forward to introducing you as our guest speakers after our AGM formalities.

Thank you to all of you for gracing this occasion. On behalf of the Board of IndianCare, I am absolutely delighted to present this fifth year report to you. It's been a big year of work, which I will now present as a summary.

This year, we continued and completed our partnership project called 'A Matter of Trust' with Eastern Community Legal Centre that aimed at educating Indians, particularly seniors in our community, about the growing issue of elder abuse. The project ended with a family day event in November last year where more than 130 people attended to hear speakers, including Victoria Police, talk about ways to prevent elder abuse. Our vice-President, Anand, was requested to present jointly with ECLC about this project at the National Community Legal Centres conference held in Canberra in August last year.

Moving on, we strengthened our collaboration with the Alcohol and Drug Foundation on the Connecting Diversity project. Together through our planning sessions, we organised eight focus groups across Melbourne at the end of last year to better understand Indian community attitudes and perspectives about alcohol. We assisted ADF in recruiting two bicultural workers who helped with the focus group discussions. Through knowledge gained from the focus group discussions, ADF is currently delivering targeted community education sessions in the Indian community to raise awareness about the harms related to alcohol. IndianCare recruited Anu Krishnan to assist ADF in organising and co-facilitating these education sessions. She has been a real asset and thank you Anu.

This year, we undertook a great amount of planning and training. Through small grants from the Victorian Multicultural Commission and the Federal Department of Social Security, we held evaluation and planning sessions which provided us an opportunity to reflect on our work and think strategically about the future. I would like to sincerely thank Minh Nguyen and Deborah Rosenberg who facilitated these sessions and prepared our strategic documents. The planning documents will guide us for the next year. Additionally, some of our board members and our student, Megha Whig who finished her placement in October last year, undertook training at CisVic to learn ways of effectively interviewing clients and referring them to the right services. This has been useful skills training and we thank CisVic for this opportunity.

Another interesting project that we undertook this year was through a small grant that we received from InTouch Multicultural Centre against Family Violence. This grant aimed at promoting gender equality was used to organise a concert held in February in collaboration with InConcert Music and Ashray Women's Centre. The vocal concert by Mrs Shoba Shekhar, accompanied by Mr Murali Kumar and Mr Sridhar Chari on violin and mridangam, was a traditional Carnatic music performance that pushed some boundaries, based on the theme of equality between men and women. This vocal concert was followed by a dance performance by Dr Nartaki Nataraj, a trans-gender guest artist from India who performed in front of an audience of approximately 200 people and displayed magnificently how dance helped her to overcome the

discrimination and taunts that she faced as a trans gender woman. Dr Nataraj delivered a powerful speech as part of her performance to promote equality between men and women, and this is one of her quotes

- Some are born poor, some are born rich, some are born women, some are born men ....all living beings are born into different bodies with different destinies, but as souls we are equal. On the spiritual platform, we are all equal.

This project was chosen to be presented at the launch of the Empowering Communities Network earlier this year. We are continuing this work on gender equality by undertaking another art project on 6 October that involves making clay diyas or lamps to symbolically spread the word and light the world about gender equality. I warmly invite you to attend this event and there are some flyers at the back of the room with more details.

Throughout the year, we have been approached by other organisations to assist them in tapping into the Indian community. For example, Hepatitis C Australia requested our assistance in promoting the message of a safe and easy cure for Hepatitis C (there are some posters in the back if you would like to know more) and we assisted Multicultural Centre Women's Health in organising education sessions for people in the Indian community with caring responsibilities. We get continual requests from various organisations, which validates the existence of IndianCare.

The year ended with a significant achievement of securing a grant for the next two years from the Department of Premier and Cabinet to build the capacity of our organisation and undertake further work in the prevention of family violence and development of referral pathways. We sincerely thank Minister Robin Scott and his adviser, Ms Kaushalya Vaghela, for their faith in our organisation. I would like to acknowledge the presence of Kate O'Sullivan from the Department who is here today and has been providing us strong and able support in the last few months. We look forward to reporting on this work at next year's Annual General Meeting. In consideration of the large grant we received, we recently appointed Mr Ashok Reddy from Western Melbourne Business Services, to help us manage our financial records in an orderly manner. Ashok is pretty much supporting us in a pro-bono manner and we cannot thank him enough for his generosity.

I would like to end my report by acknowledging some key organisations and people. Firstly, to staff at the Alcohol and Drug Foundation, thank you for the thought and care you have put into the design and delivery of the education and awareness project for the Indian community about harms related to alcohol. We look forward to continuing our work together over the next year. Thank you to Santisouk Phongsavan, Kate Naish, Rachel Heaton and Janelle Gibson. To InTouch, it has been a real pleasure being part of the Empowering Communities Network, and we have enjoyed using your grant creatively to undertake art based projects to promote the necessary message of gender equality. Special thanks to Nadine Hantke and Roshan Bhandary. While we have no representatives from the Federal government here today, I must acknowledge that the small volunteer grant provided by DSS has gone a long way. I also thank sincerely the support received from VMC and I will say more about that later when I introduce Commissioner Sundram Sivamalai.

As always, I reserve one of my last thankyou's to Elizabeth Drozd and her staff at AMCS. Elizabeth has been on the journey with us right from the start, supporting and mentoring us. No request from us to her is declined and we are truly grateful.

My ultimate thank you is to my fellow board members. While Asha left the Board early this year because of other pressing commitments, she has assisted us on the ground with the InTouch project.

To the rest of the board members, I am sure you agree that it has been a year where we have bonded and built on each other's strengths. Although we work long hours and handle difficult issues, we cope through good humour and a real collegial spirit, always maintaining our focus on the welfare of Indians in Victoria. I hope the values that we carry spread deeper and wider into the work that we undertake into the future. Thank you.

**Jaya Manchikanti**

**(on behalf of the Committee of Management of IndianCare)**



# Profit and Loss

July 2017 - June 2018

		Total
	Jul 2017 - Jun 2018	Jul 2016 - Jun 2017 (PY)
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grants – Department of Social Services	0.00	2,000.00
Grants – Vic Multicultural Commission	0.00	3,000.00
Grants – Alcohol and Drug Foundation	10,000.00	0.00
Grants – Department of Premier & Cabinet	100,000.00	0.00
Grants – InTouch Multicultural Centre against Family Violence	2,500.00	0.00
Interest Income	37.50	\$15.47
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>112,537.50</b>	<b>5,015.47</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>112,537.50</b>	<b>5,015.47</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Accounting and bookkeeping	121.00	0.00
Strategy Planning	2,000.00	0.00
Venue Hire	410.00	0.00
InTouch Project	1,500.00	0.00
Interpreter Services	0.00	153.15
Meeting Expenses	877.30	95.50
Office expenses	101.80	0.00
Printing, stationery & supplies	400.71	385.00
Subscriptions	330.00	165.00
Training	150.00	450.00
Travel expenses	714.21	410.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>6,605.02</b>	<b>1,658.65</b>
<b>NET EARNINGS</b>	<b>A\$105,932.48</b>	<b>A\$3,356.82</b>

# Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2018

	<b>Total</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Statement Account (9446)	111,379.89
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>111,379.89</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>A\$111,379.89</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY</b>	
<b>Current liabilities:</b>	
<b>Accounts payable</b>	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	330.00
<b>Total Accounts payable</b>	<b>330.00</b>
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>330.00</b>
<b>Shareholders' equity:</b>	
Net Income	105,932.48
Opening balance equity	5,117.41
Retained Earnings	
<b>Total shareholders' equity</b>	<b>111,049.89</b>
<b>Total liabilities and equity</b>	<b>111,379.89</b>