



The Interfaith Network – City of Greater Dandenong
IFN Members Meeting
September 25th, 2024
10.00am – 12.15
Meeting Minutes
Main Training Room,
Level 1, 3G Clow Street, Dandenong

Item Number	Agenda Item	Discussion Lead	Decision Outcome
0	Present	Kathy Kaplan OAM Agnes Kean Anita Davine Philip Wong Father Jean Mawal Pannasobhana Thero Mehtap Williams Livia Carusi Paris Sard Lilian Poke Sr Jacqueline Russell Reverend Berlin Guerrero Venerable Bodhicitta	
0	Apologies	Imran Furkan Kurnada Seyit Loreto Cannon Roz Blades OAM Paster Peter Debuth Ursula Aruma Anne Maslin	
0	Welcome	IFN President, Anita Davine	Anita welcomed all those present to the first IFN Members meeting since COVID 19.
1.0	Acknowledgement of Country	Executive Officer, Liv Carusi	The following acknowledgement of Country was given: We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People and we pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging of the land on which we live and learn. We respect their spiritual relationship with Country and acknowledge that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to those living today.

			Sovereignty was never ceded. It always was and always will be Aboriginal land.
2.0	Opening Reflection	IFN Community Education Officer, Paris Sard	The following reflection was given: It is wonderful to see us gathered here today, for the first time since the challenges of COVID-19. Our organisation has always been about unity, about bringing together people from diverse Faiths, traditions, and backgrounds. And today, as we meet again, I am reminded of the strength that comes when we gather. This gathering is more than just a meeting; it is a symbol of our shared commitment to understanding, peace, and community. Each of us brings with us our own traditions, our own beliefs, and yet, together, we form a beautiful mosaic—one that reflects the best of humanity. The past few years have tested us in many ways. We've been separated by distance, by uncertainty, by the difficulties of a changing world. But today, as we come together, let us remember that it is in our unity, in our coming together, that we find strength. Across all of our Faiths, there is a common teaching: the importance of community, of standing with one another in times of need, and of celebrating our shared humanity. So, as we begin this meeting, let us take a moment to reflect on the significance of this moment. Let us celebrate the resilience of our community, the bonds that have sustained us, and the purpose that brings us here today. Together, we can continue to build bridges of understanding, fostering peace and compassion in a world that needs it now more than ever. Thank you all for being here. May this gathering be filled with positive energy, collaboration, and renewed hope as we move forward.
3.0	Housekeeping	Executive Officer, Liv Carusi	The minutes of the IFN Members meeting held will be prepared by IFN staff and circulated to IFN members in advance of the next Members meeting scheduled for

			Wednesday, December 4 th , 2024. Further details will be emailed and posted on the IFN website in the month of October 2024.
4.0	Registered Apologizes		Noted above
4.1	Registered Attendees and Introductions		Noted above
5.0	IFN Story, Service and Impacy in Our Community	IFN Executive Committee Member, Father Jean Mawal	Father Jean thanked the Members present for their service and work within the City of Greater Dandenong and for supporting the vision and values of the IFN. He encouraged IFN Members to be involved within the Network and encourage others to join and or be involved. As a Member of the Executive Committee, he encouraged IFN Members to put forward their ideas and suggestions that the IFN could focus on with Members, issues that are affecting them as Faith Leaders and the people they serve and work with.
6.0	IFN Update	Executive Officer, Liv Carusi	Members thanked for their support and commitment during this period of transition. Several achievements were identified as well as priority areas over the next 6 months. Several of which are contained within the IFN Annual Report, 2023-2024. The Annual Report 2023-2024 will be tabled at AGM 2024, following the IFN Members meeting and thereafter posted on the IFN website and circulated via email.
7.0	IFN Values Revisited	Executive Officer, Liv Carusi	Insightful and rich discussion on the values of IFN Members congratulated for their energy and efforts in this activity. Members present recommended the following as the IFN values: • Education • Diversity • Harmony • Integrity • Respect The recommended values will be tabled with the IFN Executive Committee at their meeting in November 2024, and thereafter further work will be undertaken with Members to define each value, at the upcoming IFN Members meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 4th, 2024.

8.0	Other Members Business	Executive Officer, Liv Carusi	Members encouraged to attend future IFN Members meetings. It is expected that 4 IFN Members meetings will be held annually. In addition to attending, IFN Members encouraged to email Liv Carusi via executive@interfaithnetwork.org.au items, topics for discussion, guest speakers etc.
			Annual General Meeting – 2024 Members encouraged to stay for the Annual General Meeting as well as the Members lunch.
8.1	Next IFN Members Meeting	Executive Officer, Liv Carusi	Wednesday, December 4 th , 2024 – Further details will be shared in October 2024.
9.0	IFN Members Meeting – Closed	IFN President, Anita Davine	Anita thanked Members present and closed the IFN Members meeting.