



# ETHNIC SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

## NEWSLETTER

Dec 2017

Community Languages Schools  
Where Language and Culture Come Together

### 2017 – REFLECTIONS, REPORT CARD AND RECOGNITION OF SUPPORTERS



Over 150 community language school teachers and instructors attended our General Meeting on Wednesday December 12, 2017.

Community Languages Australia Executive Director Stefan Romaniw presented the annual report card on the activities of CL and the Ethnic Schools Association of Victoria. (The report card can be found on our website <http://www.communitylanguages.org.au/Documents/ESAV-RoundUp-Dec-2017-PPP.pdf>)

The evening had a special touch to it!

CLA and ESAV paid tribute to several long term standing supporters of the community language school program and our schools

- **DINA GUEST** – who was a member of the Department of Education in Victoria for close to 50 years. Dina was the backbone of growing the community language schools program.
- **JOHN FIRTH** former CEO of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. John also has been the DET and VCAA for nearly 50 years. John was supportive and assisted many language groups in becoming VCE providers
- **KYPROS KYPRIANOU**, a long-standing member of the Education Department who worked at Community Schools Program. Kypros assisted many schools through their accreditation process
- **BRIAN FOSTER** – Senior Officer with the VCAA (could not attend on the evening). Brian was always available to explain, direct and advise schools on issues in relation to VCE.

*We thank them all and wish them well in their retirement.*

Ethnic Schools Association  
of Victoria Inc.

Languages & Multicultural  
Education Resource  
Centre

L2, 189 Faraday Street  
Carlton 3053  
Ph: (03) 9349 2683  
Fax: (03) 9349 3698

Email: [info@esav.org.au](mailto:info@esav.org.au)  
Website: [www.esav.org.au](http://www.esav.org.au)

ABN 97 461 789 657

---

## MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

---

### 1. Per capita funding 2018

In 2018, community language schools will be required to submit an online application for per capita funding via the online grants management system 'SmartyGrants'. **Please note that schools will still be required to populate an Excel spreadsheet with their student enrolment data**, which can then be uploaded to the SmartyGrants website.

Information sessions about the new process, including a demonstration of SmartyGrants, will be held in early February (please refer timeline below). **Attendance at one of the information sessions is mandatory if your school will be seeking funding in 2018.**

The *Community Language Schools Funding Program - 2018 Eligibility of per capita funding Terms and Conditions* are attached for your information.

Activity	Date
Information sessions about 2018 funding process (choose ONE date to attend)	Tues 6 February 2018 Thurs 8 February 2018
2017 Annual reports submitted to DET (for CLS who received funding in 2017)	Wed 28 February 2018
2018 funding applications due (submitted via SmartyGrants)	Mon 19 March 2018
CLS notified of outcome of funding applications	May 2018
Payment of per capita funding grants to schools	June 2018

### 2. Reaccreditation 2018

In 2018, **all** accredited community language schools will be required to apply for reaccreditation for a three-year period (2019-2021). To assist schools in the preparation of their applications, a number of information sessions have been planned (please refer timeline below). **Attendance at these information sessions is mandatory.**

In the meantime, information about the reaccreditation process can be found at: <https://www.cls.vic.edu.au/>. Please note that guidelines for the 2018 reaccreditation process are currently being updated. Principals will be notified of the updated guidelines in early 2018.

Activity	Date
Information sessions on 2018 reaccreditation process (choose ONE date to attend)	Tues 27 March 2018 Wed 28 March 2018
Reaccreditation - Victorian Curriculum sessions	April/May 2018 (exact dates to be confirmed)
Reaccreditation applications due (all CLS)	Tue 31 July 2018
CLS notified of outcome of reaccreditation applications	End of Dec 2018

### 3. Enrolment advice

The collection of accurate data is essential to the integrity of the *Community Language Schools Funding Program*. It is the responsibility of all community language schools to correctly record student details when they first enrol, and update them as required. This includes recording student withdrawals.

To further strengthen community language schools' record-keeping practices, **from 2018** the Department requires all community language schools to update their existing enrolment forms for **all new enrolments** by incorporating the following into their forms:

## Continue message from DET

---

- Students' Australian residency status
- Students' current or previous attendance at other community language schools
- Privacy Collection Notice
- Parent/Guardian Privacy Consent and Declaration

**The required text for these items can be found in the attached document.**

Alternatively, community language schools can use/adapt the attached sample enrolment form.

The Department appreciates your attention to these matters and wishes you all the best for the holiday season.

---

## REQUEST TO STATE GOVERNMENT FOR INCREASED FUNDING

---

On November 17, 2017 CLA wrote to The Hon James Merlino - Minister for Education and The Hon Robin Scott - Minister for Multicultural Affairs seeking increased funding for community languages schools. A follow up meeting was held with Minister Scott's office recently. Below is an extract from the letter sent:

*Dear Ministers*

*I am writing to you on behalf of Community Languages Australia and The Ethnic Schools Association of Victoria to provide some information on our State Community Language Schools' Program and request that you consider increasing funding to community language schools for the 2019 school year through the 2018 Budget Process.*

*In addition, we would like to commence discussions with you in relation to 2018 Election commitments. Community language schools continue to grow in the number of students and languages.*

*Thanks to Victorian State Government support over 36,000 students received per capita funding of \$215 per student. Financial support from the Victorian Department of Education has allowed for many teachers and instructors to attend and complete credit bearing training programs through universities undertake professional development sessions and for the delivery of Certificate IV Community Languages Teaching courses through our Registered Training Organisation (RTO)*

*Schools must now undertake a rigorous accreditation process to ensure they are compliant in a range of areas, the most recent Australian Curriculum, Child Safety Regulations and others.*

*The hire of school facilities from Government and non-Government schools is costly and a high proportion of the per capita funding goes towards hire of facilities.*

*Whilst schools have not had an increase in per capital funding going on four years, expenses have increased, expectations have increased, compliance and accreditation criteria have increased. Schools are also spending more funds on producing materials and exploring the use of ICT in classrooms.*

*Many of our schools are registered VCE providers. Their students perform well in years 11 and 12. It should also be noted that community language schools have a high retention rate – students who commence in early years and go through to year 11 and 12. Much time and effort goes into achieving this.*

*We are writing to request that you consider following:*

- a) In the 2018/2019 budget offer \$5 - \$10 per capital increase which would come into force in the 2019 school year (annual increase \$5.00 x 37,000 students - \$185,000, \$10 increase \$270,000.*
- b) In relation to election commitments that you consider committing to a \$25-\$30 per capita for your next 4-years (38, 000 students)*
- c) Introduce funding for preschool - early childhood students. At present they are not eligible under the current funding program (2000-3000 students)*
- d) Commit to \$75,000 - \$100,000 increase for professional development, training the RTO and administrative services.*

*All the above would further reinforce the Andrew's Government commitment to languages education, social cohesion and community languages schools.*

- *We also take this opportunity to invite you to attend and open the State Community Languages Schools Conference on Saturday July 7, 2018.*
- *We would also suggest that we plan for school visits to a range of Community Language Schools in 2018.*

*I am also requesting a meeting with you to discuss the above and provide you a more detailed report on the activities of community languages schools in Victoria at a time that suits your diaries.*

*Your sincerely*

**Stefan Romaniw OAM**  
**Executive Director**

---

## ACADEMIC FORUM

---



Community Languages Australia hosted an Academic Forum in Melbourne on Monday December 4, 2017. Leading academics – Prof Joe Lo Bianco (Melbourne Uni),

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| ✓ Dr Angela Scarino (SA),              | ✓ Mare Dellora VCAA    |
| ✓ Ass Prof Roland Sussex (Queensland), | ✓ Enzo Sirna, ESAWA    |
| ✓ Dr Ken Cruickshank (NSW)             | ✓ Jo Hughson RUMACC    |
| ✓ Dr Teresa De Fazio ,                 | ✓ Tassos Douvartzides, |
| ✓ Guosheng Chen (RMIT)                 | ✓ Stefan Romaniw,      |
| ✓ Kerry Mullane (RMIT)                 | ✓ Fahry Abubaker,      |
| ✓ Mr David Howes CEO VCAA,             | ✓ Neda Erjaei          |

Eleanor Bates from DET Commonwealth also attended.

Some of the issues discussed were:

- National Languages Policy,
- Researching community language schools and their work,
- accreditation processes and other issues.

This is an important advisory group assisting CLA in driving our agenda into the future.

---

## CHANGE TO COMMUNITY LANGUAGES VICTORIA

---

Sometime ago members voted to change our name from the Ethnic Schools Association of Victoria to Community Languages Victoria.

The Australia Federation of Ethnic Schools Association (AFESA) is now trading as Community Languages Australia. At the last Council meeting in October – all States agreed to a change their names e.g. Community Languages NSW, ACT, etc.

This will require a formal constitutional change.

In the new year a draft constitution will be distributed. We will then need to call a General Meeting to accept the new constitution. A range of other changes will also be recommended.

---

## TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

---

Another wonderful year of training and Professional development!

We extend our thanks to all presenters and trainers. The Credit bearing courses continue to assist teachers.

Leadership Training delivered by Dr Maria Gindidis has been well attended and is producing some strong results.

It is planned to hold a 'mini summit' in early 2018 for the educational leaders to present their work to the broader community languages schools providers.

Dr Teresa De Fazio and Neda Erjaei have worked hard to deliver the RTO program. Again, a challenging educational activity that provides participants with the tools to become effective trainers in their schools and communities.

---

### 22159VIC CERT IV IN COMMUNITY LANGUAGES TEACHING (RTO 22602)

---



2017 has been a wonderful year for the Certificate IV in Community Languages Teaching.

With over 20 teachers undertaking the course this year it was a very productive time for the team. We saw poster presentations, the development of impressive new resources in various languages, units of work, conference presentations, workplace observations and a range of other activities that make up the busy but rewarding program of study. The teachers all remarked on the value of the course and how it has helped them develop the quality of their teaching and enrich their understandings of languages teaching and learning in an Australian community languages environment.

The course will be running again in late February 2018 so if there are teachers and principals who would like to enquire about the course, please contact Neda to register your interest: [certiv\\_admin@communitylanguages.org.au](mailto:certiv_admin@communitylanguages.org.au).

Candidates are expected to have a strong intermediate level of English, successfully undertaken a 30 hours LOTE Methodology Program and have the support of the principal of the school.

---

---

## NEXT YEAR – 30th ANNIVERSARY OF ESAV

---



In 1988 the first steps were taken to form the ESAV. It's been nearly 30 years of activity in building the sector.

In early 2018 at our first General meeting we will discuss ways of celebrating this milestone. At present a 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner, State Conference, and possibly a Festival are being considered.

*Any ideas how we celebrated? Let us know ([info@esav.org.au](mailto:info@esav.org.au))*

---

## PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY

---

Reference No: **11030873**  
Insurer Policy No: 03.300.0572814



Period of Insurance: **01/04/2017 – 01/04/2018**

The current Certificate of the public liability insurance policy is still valid till April 2018. Please contact our office 03-9349-2863 to obtain a copy.

For insurance claims please contact our Broker Mr. Angelos Didaskalou on 03-9412-1335 or [angelos.didaskalou@ajg.com.au](mailto:angelos.didaskalou@ajg.com.au) | [www.ajg.com.au](http://www.ajg.com.au)

---

## Thank you - Merry Christmas - Happy Festivities Enjoy the Break

---



Thank you to all who have made 2017 another successful year. There has been hard work, commitment and sacrifice to ensure that students in our schools receive the best possible education, that programs provide an opportunity to learn, maintain, strengthen language and foster culture.

Thanks to all students, parents, teachers, administrators and supporters.

Also, special thanks to Therese Mercader, Jennifer Swanton at DET, to the LMERC staff, David Howes, and Maree Dellora and staff at VCAA, to John Hajek and his team at RUMACCC for your support and assistance.

Once again to our educators, trainers thank you for your help to improve the quality in our schools and classrooms

A special thank you to Fahry Abubaker and Neda Erjaei and their team of volunteers for their work, commitment and *never say no attitude* to things that must be done.

We wish those celebrating Christmas a very Merry and holy Christmas – to others we wish you a wonderful festive season and an enjoyable break.

We look forward to working with you again in 2018.