



MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL  
RANGITIKEI/WHANGANUI  
HELPING NEWCOMERS FEEL AT HOME

# STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025



Multicultural Council of Rangitikei/Whanganui Inc

# MAYOR HAMISH MCDOUALL

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Over the last decades Whanganui has developed into a diverse community – one where newcomers are welcomed, collaborations are welcomed and we all pull together in time of need. Yet there is still much to do to raise understanding of different cultures, to nurture relationships, and to work towards equality of opportunity for all. Among others, Whanganui has sizeable communities of Cook Islanders, Samoans, Fijians, Keralites, Punjabis and Filipinos in our community all contributing in many different ways to making this district even better.

I support the kaupapa of the Multicultural Council. Keeping each of our unique identities is vital in that it creates an enduring link to our ancestry. But also sharing aspects of our cultures among us binds us closer together through understanding.

I have witnessed first-hand the efforts of the Multicultural Council in supporting new migrants and breaking down barriers for individuals of different ethnicity. Just as Whanganui is better for our diverse ethnic populations, the community is also better for the Multicultural Council's presence.



***Just as Whanganui is better for our diverse ethnic populations, the community is also better for the Multicultural Council's presence.***



# PRESIDENT PUSHPA PRASAD

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The Multicultural Council of Rangitikei/Whanganui Inc has been in existence for over two decades and has been a pillar of strength for migrants and ethnic communities during that time. From the start we have worked to assist newcomers to settle in Aotearoa. Our aim has been to provide a 'one stop shop' offering information, services and helping make connections with other people, organisations and agencies.

In order to uphold our vision and mission statement our volunteer team works tirelessly – organising activities and events designed to encourage ethnic communities' participation. We love it when people of all ages get involved and have an opportunity to share their language, traditions and cultural dance, recreation and food.

The last two years have been challenging due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Multicultural Council's team has put in countless hours helping support those in need.

While further challenges may still lie ahead, we will remain prepared to assist.

We have been fortunate to secure funding for capability and resilience building within the Multicultural Council, and this Strategic Plan is part of that project. We thank those stakeholders who were generous with their time and whose ideas have helped inform the priorities included in the Plan.

Our focus on these priorities over the next few years will ensure we know where our energies and action can best serve our ethnic and migrant communities.

My heartfelt gratitude goes to our funders: Ministry of Social Development, Ministry for Ethnic Communities, Whanganui District Council including Welcoming Communities. We are blessed to be able to stand strong and operate well due to this support.

My sincere thanks also goes to our hardworking coordinator Robin Williamson, who has been leading this project with the support of Teena Lawrence. I thank our kaumatua Jayson Herewini and the Multicultural Council's Executive Committee members for their unconditional support.

Kia kaha  
Maururu Koe



# ABOUT US

Legal Name	Multi Cultural Council of Rangitikei/Wanganui Incorporated
Operation Name	Multicultural Council of Rangitikei/Whanganui
Address	137 Anzac Parade, Whanganui East, Whanganui 4500 PO Box 5040, Aramoho, Whanganui 4500
Phone numbers	(06) 343 1031   0210 254 0709
Email	info@wanganuimulticultural.co.nz
Website	wanganuimulticultural.co.nz
Facebook	www.facebook.com/MulticulturalCouncilWhanganuiRangitikei
Instagram	multiculturalwhanganui
Incorporated Society Name	Multicultural Council of Rangitikei/Wanganui Incorporated
Incorporation Number	1375043
Incorporation Date	13-Aug-2003
Charities Commission	CC24707
Charity name	Multi Cultural Council of Rangitikei/Wanganui Incorporated
Date registered	21/05/2008
NZBN	9429043110513



# TE TIMATA Ō TE ARA

*The beginning of your journey*



## MISSION

Our mission is to promote cultural awareness

## VISION

Our vision is to bring about cultural understanding and togetherness

## GUIDING PRINCIPLE

We support e tu whanau as guiding principles

## INTRODUCTION

This year the Multicultural Council of Rangitikei/Whanganui celebrates 18 years of achievement as a champion of multiculturalism and harmonious race relations in our region. From small beginnings in 2003, we have steadfastly served our communities' migrants and newcomers: seniors, women, youth and those in business.

In 2022 we have been fortunate to receive funding from the Ministry of Social Development for capability and resilience building. This adds to the funding gratefully received in current and past years from the NZ Lottery Grants Board, Ministry for Ethnic Communities, J R McKenzie Trust, Whanganui District Council, and Whanganui Community Foundation for our various projects, events and activities.

We sustain our funding by demonstrating our ability to deliver. We have developed this strategic plan for 2022/25, through which we will continue to pursue our vision of a multicultural region where all people live together safely and in harmony. We do this through our objectives which support:

***Unity | Equality | Collaboration | Manaakitanga/Nurturing Relationships |  
Te Tiriti | Sustainability | Kaitiakitanga***

# OBJECTIVES

## Unity

To promote understanding and preserve ethnic customs, arts and crafts, languages, religions, sports, recreational activities and cultures.

To promote unity in our communities by initiating and supporting events and activities which provide space for these activities to flourish.

To seek opportunities to offer more such spaces and include more of our diverse community.

We will promote these opportunities through our newsletter, website, social media pages, and word-of-mouth through our networks.

## Collaboration

To provide a forum for ethnic groups to share experiences, friendships and develop relationships.

We will develop relationships with organisations with which we share common objectives.

While we may not deliver shared programmes and projects, through our affiliation with them we will support their goals. We will continue to work with our existing strategic partners: Welcoming Communities, Newcomers Network, cultural societies/organisations, Whanganui District Council, New Zealand Police and Rangitikei communities.

We will grow the number of such partnerships and relationships with organisations which share our objectives in order to maximise our impact.

We will attend other organisations' hui and conferences as appropriate to expand our networks and connections.

We will continue to strengthen the reciprocal support between the New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils, other Regional Multicultural Councils and ourselves.

## Equality

To support the rights of ethnic individuals and groups to enjoy equal opportunities.

To be a recognised contact point for any migrants or newcomers seeking advocacy regarding their right to be treated fairly and enjoy equal opportunities to pursue their interests, culture and employment.

We will promote this service through our newsletter, website, social media pages, and by word-of-mouth through our networks.

We will make submissions to local and central government on policy, practice, and legislation as appropriate. We will endorse any such submissions made by the New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils.

## Manaakitanga/Nurturing Relationships

To provide assistance and orientation for those who are newcomers to the community.

We will continue to offer practical assistance: accompanying people on visits to medical centre, bank; offering tuition in technology, English language; and helping them know their rights.

Three focus areas include: women, elderly and youth. We will learn which affiliate/partner organisations in our region have social workers who specialise in working with migrants/refugee newcomers.

We will continue to elicit feedback from our networks as to how MCRW can best help our communities.



## Te Tiriti

To raise consciousness among ethnic groups regarding the special status of Māori as Tangata Whenua (people of the land) under Te Tiriti.

We will continue to refer to and include local Iwi on matters of tikanga and ask advice of kaumatua.

We include tikanga in all events and activities as appropriate.

## Sustainability

To build capacity within a sustainable funding model to ensure ongoing provision of our services and activities

## Kaitiakitanga

To respect and protect our natural environment at all times, in all we do.



# PARTNERS & SPONSORS

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# COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

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Race Unity Day Celebrations 2021

