



ETHNIC SCHOOLS

ABN 97 461 789 657

ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC EDITION – OCTOBER

## NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS – WHERE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE COME TOGETHER!

### URGENT – NEED YOUR SUPPORT!!

**HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR TABLE FOR THE DINNER DANCE?**

WILL YOUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY BE REPRESENTED?

#### ON THE NIGHT WILL BE PRESENTING

- **THE NATIONAL STATEMENT ON COMMUNITY LANGUAGES SCHOOLS**
- **Discussing our FUNDING AND RENTAL ISSUES**
  - **Having a GREAT NIGHT**

#### **SATURDAY OCTOBER 21, 2006**

We have invited some Members of Parliament and other guests

- Bring your staff, parents, and committee!!
- This will be great night!

**Saturday October 21, 2006**  
**Ukrainian Community Centre**  
**3 Russell Street Essendon**  
**From 7.00pm**

**Cultural Program - 3 Course Dinners**  
**Live Dance Band**

**Cultural Performances          Great Fun**  
*Halal - Vegetarian - available*

**Cost \$35.00 all inclusive**

**TO BOOK:** Call 9349 2400 or Send Registration to 150 Palmerston St, Carlton 3053  
Or Fax: 03 9349-1295 Or Email [info@esav.org.au](mailto:info@esav.org.au)

**Make cheques payable to ESAV Dinner Dance**

## NATIONAL COMMUNITY LANGUAGES SCHOOLS CONFERENCE BRISBANE OCTOBER 7

Australia cannot afford to be monolingual! That was the overwhelming resolution from presenters and participants at the successful 4<sup>th</sup> National Community Languages Schools / Ethnic Schooling Conference held on Saturday October 7, 2006 at Carlton Crest in Brisbane.

Strong presentations from both Commonwealth and Queensland State Government representatives in support of languages were well received. They highlighted the important work undertaken by community languages schools in teaching languages and maintaining culture. It was pointed out this work positions Australia well internationally.

Officially opening the Conference Senator Russell Trod representing The Minister for Education, The Hon Julie Bishop and The Parliamentary Secretary for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs Andrew Robb MP spoke in depth about the importance of languages to Australia, the importance of strong citizenship programs and the contribution of the Commonwealth Government through the Department of Education Science and Training (DEST) in supporting languages.

Steve Maguire Executive Director of Multicultural Queensland representing the Queensland Government provided an analytical presentation about positioning Australia globally and the importance of language and culture and how the Queensland Government is supporting these areas.

As part of the opening section -

Narendra Nand President of the Ethnic Schools Association of Queensland (ESAQ) provided insight into the work of ECAQ and its partnership with Department of Education through the LOTE Centre in Queensland and Multicultural Queensland.

Tassos Douvartzides AFESA Chairman gave a thought provoking and moving welcome. He used his own situation to show the importance of migration, citizenship and the valuable contribution made by those that settle.

Community Languages Australia Executive Director Stefan Romaniw presented the *Statement by Community Languages Australia Community Language schools contributing to Quality Languages Education*: highlighting the importance community languages schools play in languages education in Australia. The Statement articulates the purpose, role and significance of the community languages schools sector in relation to the National Languages Statement and Plan 2005-2008 accepted by MCEETYA.

The key note address "National Developments in Languages Education"

Delivered by Lia Tedesco, President Australian Federation Modern Languages Teachers Association provided a strong background to the Conference program and placed the work of community languages schools in context nationally, giving an overview of languages education policy in Australia at this time. The facts and statistics showed the importance of languages education programs and the contribution of community languages schools in delivering these programs.

Ms Tedesco's presentation matched with Dr Bob Carbine's from Erebus International, who gave an overview of the Quality Assurance Program being undertaken, set the scene for strong workshops and overall future direction in work nationally.

All presenters referred to the importance of the DEST funded Project – *Improvement to National Coordination and Quality Assurance in Ethnic Schools*.

An open forum panel chaired by Enzo Sirna AFESA Deputy Chair from WA at wriur Sue Buckle, John Kiosoglou MBE and Dr Bob Carbines spoke about future direction of community language schools in Australia. Many scenarios were provided. They built roadmaps, outlined opportunities and challenges and provided. The open forum was continued in the final plenary session, at which issues of regional delivery were discussed together with importance of on going national coordination, support for the Organizational and Procedures manual – Overwhelming support for the National Community Languages Statement.

A series of workshops were held in the afternoon –

More information available on our website: [www.communitylanguagesaustralia.org.au](http://www.communitylanguagesaustralia.org.au)

### CONGRATULATIONS TO VICTORIAN SCHOOLS WHO ATTENDED

- ❖ Cambodian Buddhist Association of Victoria Inc.
- ❖ Luzviminda Association of Filipino Women Incorporated
- ❖ Maarefa Arabic School
- ❖ Melbourne Chinese Ethnic Schools
- ❖ Xin Jin Shan Chinese Language and Culture School Inc.

**RAISING CHILDREN BILIGUALLY SEMINAR**  
**The Sidney Myer Asia Centre**  
Cnr Swanston Street and Monash Road  
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2006  
**BOOK NOW!!**