

# Aligned Partners



# NSW COUNCIL FOR Pacific Communities



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[www.nswcpc.org.au](http://www.nswcpc.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/nswcpc](https://www.facebook.com/nswcpc)

[info@nswcpc.org.au](mailto:info@nswcpc.org.au)

2014 – 2015 Annual General Report

## About Us

### Our Vision

NSW Council for Pacific Communities (NSWCPC) is a robust and well supported representative body that champions strong, thriving and vibrant Pacific communities in NSW.

### Our Mission

To empower, advocate, partner, and share information across Pacific communities in NSW, Australia.

### History

The NSW Council for Pacific Communities (NSWCPC) was established in 2003 as a peak body for collaborative work across the Pacific Communities in NSW. The NSWCPC was formed as a result of the NSW Government's Pacific Youth Partnership. This body was then established with the advice of Pacific community leaders and representatives by the Community Relations Commission (now Multicultural NSW) that continue to provide valuable and sound advice to the members of the NSWCPC council throughout its leadership since inception. The NSWCPC was established to cover 8 Regional Advisory Councils;

- Manly & Dee Why
- Mt Druitt, Blacktown, Parramatta & Penrith
- St George, Surterland, Eastern Suburbs & Sydney
- Canterbury, Bankstown Auburn & Ashfield
- Campbelltown, Liverpool & Fairfield
- Newcastle, Hunter Region
- Griffith, Riverina Region
- Wollongong, Illawarra Region

In 2014 consultations, workshops and a 'Special General Meeting' were held to make changes to the constitution and for the restructure of the NSWCPC. The restructure of the NSWCPC has seen the 8 Regional Advisory Councils replaced using the model of the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW (ECC) with an invitation to individual OR organisational memberships from government, NGO's churches and groups that engage with Pacific communities to align with the NSWCPC. This will reflect our ongoing commitment to providing innovative collaborative projects and services in NSW.

### Who are the Pacific People?

The 2011 Censuses read 95,000 Maori & Pacific now call NSW home this number will be well over 100,000. We recognizes that all Pacific peoples belong to either the Micronesian, Melanesian or Polynesian countries situated within the Pacific Region. The NSWCPC has since lobbied that all those coming under this banner are Maori & Pacific Peoples, People of the Pacific or Maori & Pacific Communities not the loose term- 'Pacific Islanders'.

### What We Do

The NSW Council for Pacific Communities represents;

- The interests of Pacific communities to government
- Helps to develop projects to benefit Pacific communities
- Aims are to enhance trust, understanding
- Encourages community capacity
- Build and develop collaborative relationships
- Enabling communication and partnership across the community, private and government sectors
- Advocacy & Networking
- Support Pacific organisations & groups in NSW

## Testimonials - Aligned Partners

### Dave Rawlings- Runway Sports

I have had the pleasure of working alongside the NSWCPC for a number of years. My connection with Pacific students in the South West Sydney area and Pacific sportsmen. The past 7 years as a sponsor of the Pacific Awards Night. I am very proud of our alignment and I commend the council for the great work they do across the State for the Pacific Communities and I look forward to our continued partnership.

### Lee Hemi - Pacific Unity NSW Chairman

I am writing to show my support for New South Wales Council For Pacific Communities. I believe the NSWCPC has greatly benefited the pacific people of New South Wales.

I have worked along side the NSWCPC for a number of years and feel confident expressing my full support. I have been chairman for Pacific Unity for over 10 years. Our mission and vision has been strongly supported by NSWCPC through the Pacific Unity Festival.

I look forward to collaborating with the NSWCPC in the future.

### Rowan Arndt - 2include Pty Limited

"I have had the pleasure of working with this council in various events. I would like to acknowledge the great work that has been completed in shaping the life of pacific people. The work, advice and knowledge is been value by all ages of the community and all levels of Government.

### Alexander Nicholls - Tropical Island Hula

During the past 10 years our company has been working closely with the NSW Council for Pacific Communities on numerous projects such as, Fitness Workshops, Ukulele, Tropical Rhythm, Costumes and the Multicultural NSW Awards Night.

We are blessed to be associated with the NSWCPC and are certain that anyone who is fortunate enough to cross their path will also be blessed with the same opportunities my company has and continues to receive.



## Messages from the Young Adult Representatives

### Patsy Nai

#### Pacific Greetings

It has been a great honour to serve on the NSWPC Executive as a Young Adult Representative. To be able to witness the growth of the Council under the guidance of the Chairperson as well as the support of the various community organisations that aligned themselves with the Council, gives me great hope for the future of our Pacific Community. This year also marked the last year of me fulfilling the role of MC for the Pacific Awards Night. What a marvellous night of recognition that it has grown to be. I look forward to being able to support the Pacific Awards Night in a different capacity this year. It truly is a night of great inspiration.

Further to that, through my role as Young Adult Representative I was able to learn more about one of the Pacific Organisations aligned with the council. The Ao Sinasina Senior's group in Campbelltown gave a presentation at one of our community meetings - which impressed me so much that I felt the need to ask how it was that we could have our young pacific people become involved. From there - we have been able to co-ordinate volunteers from our pacific young people to assist with serving lunches during their weekly meetings. This is an initiative that I will continue to work on in order to provide more consistent opportunities - as there is much that we the young pacific people can learn from our wise elders.

I am grateful for this opportunity that I have had to sit on the council this year and look forward to being able to work alongside our Pacific Community.

### Selwyn Lloyd

#### Ko Paeroa te maunga

#### Ko Waikato te Awa

#### Ko Ohaaki te Marae

#### Ko Te Arawa te Waka

#### Ko Ngati tahu Ngati Whao te Iwi

My time as the Young Adult Representative for the NSW Council for Pacific Communities has not only been one of the greatest opportunities to represent my people and all people of the pacific, here in NSW, but also one of the most rewarding learning experiences of my life.

In mid 2015 I was one of 200 young people in Australia and New Zealand selected to attend the National Student Leadership Forum in Canberra. This was a turning point in my life to not only share my story but also meet other young emerging leaders to discover their calling. I returned from this forum with a passion and drive to serve our Maori and Pacific youth in a positive and uplifting space.

My role became clearer as I began to engage with young people within our communities and realised quickly the voice of many are not being heard. There was a need for their stories and life experiences to be brought to the table. Attending numerous events such as; Multicultural NSW Youth Network, White Ribbon, Pasifika Film Festival, Pacific Unity, Cultural Festivals, NSW Premiers Harmony Day, Multicultural NSW Youth Forums in conjunction with the NSW Police and other Government and non Government Agencies have helped to realise the needs.

The most recent campaign I have had the privilege to assist with is #FistsDown. An initiative that came about from the recent fights involving our Young people which created some alarming concerns. With further developments we hope to engage our youth in deeper more meaningful conversations discovered through their lens and personal worldview.

This past year serving as the young adult rep has taught me that I can make an impact on the lives of others through communication and understanding. Be an encourager and help people to find their voice. We must believe that what we have to offer is much bigger than what we may think.

In closing I leave you with this prominent Maori proverb

"He aha te mea nui o tenei ao , He tangata , He Tangata , he Tangata"

"What is the most important thing in this world , It is People , People , People"

Acknowledged throughout generations this could not be more relevant today as it was then. This is the way of our Council and I am not only proud but very honoured to have stood and represented this council as the young adult representative.

**No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou tena koutou katoa**

## Key Focus Areas



### Strong Families

Pacific families are strong families with foundations built on our proud culture and heritage that enables us to live and develop in the current social, cultural, economic, and spiritual contexts in NSW.

### Youth

NSW Pacific Youth contribute to their own sustainable development in all areas through exploring their options and contributing proactively and positively to the wider NSW community.

### Education and Employment

Pacific communities of NSW become versatile in their enhanced knowledge about options to pathways in Education, Training and Employment, ultimately creating sustainable communities for future generations.

### Sustainable Entrepreneurship

Pacific communities continue to strive and become robust in exploring business opportunities and are aware of creative financial pathways in contributing positively to the wider Australian economy.

### Culture and Heritage

Pacific communities are recognized for their diversity across NSW through the promotion of their culture, traditions and heritage ultimately contributing to the vibrancy of growing and emerging multicultural communities across NSW.

### Health

Pacific communities are healthy communities and are proactive in the prevention of health challenges, which ultimately affect individuals and their own communities.

### Public Relations

Pacific communities are recognized for their effective communications strategy in promoting their richness and diversity throughout growing multiculturalism in NSW.

### Art

Pacific communities recognized for their diverse and strong contribution through rich culture and contemporary flavors to Arts in NSW.

### Sport

Pacific communities continue to strive in sports and develop in all areas contributing in many ways to the community.

# Chairperson's Report

## Malaemie Fruean

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND:** We acknowledge the traditional custodians past and present upon whose ancestral lands we are gathered today. We recognize and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing relationship with the land. A special thank you to Uncle Ivan, for his continued guidance and counsel shared with me over the years.

It is with great pleasure that I report to you on a year in which the NSWPC has worked effectively to represent our Pacific communities throughout NSW. On behalf of the executive team, we welcome everyone, especially our aligned partners and communities who have supported and participated in many of our collaborative projects.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our executive for their dedication, professional insight, and support over this past year.

The NSW Council for Pacific Communities has expanded its scope with another busy year. Our restructure process modelled from the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW has succeeded the replacement of 8 Regional Advisory Councils. We welcome our 19 aligned partners, Government and Non Government agencies as well as stakeholders from community groups, and churches throughout, who engage and commit to the work and wellbeing of our Pacific people.

Your support demonstrates a significant impact on the future developments of this council. You bring a wealth of knowledge and experience that collectively we can all use to build stronger partnerships to continue the good work of the NSWPC.

In hindsight here are some examples of the support we have received thus far

**CARRIAGEWORKS:** Director, Lisa Havilah and her team at Carriageworks have been great supporters for our Pacific communities. We have been actively involved in collaborative work with Carriageworks projects, in particular with Pacific artists both locally and internationally

**PACIFIC UNITY:** NSWPC has a long history supporting Lee Hemi and his team of volunteers at the Pacific Unity Festival. We have provided over the years a kids corner of Pacific arts & crafts and in 2015 we expanded by providing a Pacific village with huts representing Maori, Cook Island, Nuie and Fiji. We look forward to our continued partnership with Pacific Unity.

**2INCLUDE:** Special thanks to the CEO Rowan Arndt who has been a long time sponsor of the Pacific Awards Night and a number of Pacific events specifically 'Reach The Musical'. Rowan continues to support NSWPC by providing leadership and Cultural Diversity training.

**MILLER ART & FACTS:** Our joint partnership has provided opportunities and pathways in Health for our Pacific Communities. We have had Multicultural Health workers as guest speakers at NSWPC meetings, participants in Mental Health & First Aid training. Engaged in screen-printing workshops and attended the Miller Christmas Movie Night providing Pacific arts workshops. Our young adult rep was the MC and board members were volunteers.

**Special thanks** to Andrew Reid for his unwavering support. Through our aligned partnership we have seen the Au Sinasina Samoan group expand from Minto to a second group open in Miller. The seniors have participated in a number of events hosted by the Miller community. A fantastic outcome for all.

Our strength has been our ability to partner and leverage across projects with a number of services and Government organisations to assist us in reaching our objectives. This has been successful and continues to do so because of the dedication in building those relationships and with the support of the NSWPC volunteers. We are an organisation that recognises each other, works together and provides the best opportunities possible for our Pacific communities.

An example of this has been our relationship with the Cabramatta Local Area Command who willingly engaged with Pacific community leaders requesting help with some serious and continued rising concerns amongst our Pacific youth. This was the beginning of an excellent partnership with not only the Cabramatta Local Area Command but also other Pacific community members. We hope to maintain our relationship with the Cabramatta Police and thank them for being strong supporters of the NSWPC.

This year we implemented changes to our monthly meetings and decided to allow our aligned partners and communities the opportunity to host. They are held on the first Friday of each month between 10am and 12pm followed by a shared lunch. This was very successful and brought a lot of interest as well as being a great networking opportunity.



## Messages from the Vice Chair & Secretary

### Vice Chair - Moana Stickland

#### Kia Orana and Pacific Greetings

Firstly thank you to my Heavenly Father for his many blessings. I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay my respects to the Elders past, present and future. I also wanted to give a special mention to my family who constantly support me in everything I am able to do.

As this is my 2nd term as Vice Chair for the Council it has been a privilege and I am fortunate to have worked alongside and be mentored by hardworking & passionate individuals, who share the same vision for our Pacific communities.

My role is to assist the Chairperson and executive through community engagement and advocacy at State and Federal levels, ensuring that we are a resourceful support for all Government and Non Government Agencies and stakeholders throughout NSW. A highlight for me would have to be the Launch of the Pacific Art Collection at the Australian Museum and meeting the Honorable Foreign Minister Julie Bishop. It was such an honour to witness at least 200 artefacts from 16 Pacific nations and territories on display at the Australian Museum's Pacific Spirit exhibition. Our beautiful performers from Tropical Island Hula and the attendance of the Australian Cook Island Community Council of NSW (ACCIC) supported this event well.

I have had a wonderful experience during my time with the NSWCP, enduring many personal challenges along the way, however the constant love and support from my family, friends and colleagues made it all worthwhile. For that I am truly grateful.

In closing may we always remember our roots, our heritage and our traditions. And be unified as one Pacific Nation.

#### MetaakiMaata

#### Moana Strickland

### Secretary - Donita Hulme-Cawi

Ni sa bula vinaka / Muju cola vina! What a year of connecting it has been for your peak body, the NSW Council for Pacific Communities. Two key changes have amplified the Council's ability to engage with the ever-growing Pacific and Maori communities in NSW and to represent our people when advocating to government. One I would like to highlight is the New Membership Structure.

**New membership structure:** The change to organisations becoming Aligned Members (as opposed to only individuals) cements a key Council function, that of being the Pacific community connector. Each organisation and its members are represented by Council and in turn the Council is accountable to those people, people like you. The Aligned Members are publicly acknowledged on the Council website for you to see and together they represent almost 2000 individuals.

Welcoming connections, brokering connections and making connections can be busy and intense work. But it is work that makes a difference as seen in the cooperation between NSW Police, the Council and our communities in response to the increasing frequency of organised fights featuring too many of our youth. An important element of our advocacy now is calling for government funding of Pacific-specific initiatives because our communities- who represent a larger percentage of the NSW population than ever before- cannot continue to undertake development work for the love it, that is without government support despite being invited by government to act.

All of the Council's work is coordinated by a team of passionate people who serve in 100% voluntary positions on the Council executive committee. We are not alone in our work and I would like to say vinaka vaka levu to you for everything you contribute to Pacific communities.

This is my third and final term as Secretary of the Council. I would like pay tribute to former Chair and my tauvu, Tia Roko for recruiting me and to current Chair, Mal Fruen for leading us into a new era. I am especially grateful for the learning, relationships and experiences that I have gathered alongside my fellow committee mates, they make it easy to do this work.

In closing I warmly encourage you to connect with the Council and each other through our monthly meetings and I urge your organisations to become Aligned Members for together we are strong, dua vata!

#### Vina va levu

#### Donita Hulme-Cawi - Secretary



**YOUTH:** It's been a fantastic year for the youth portfolio providing opportunities to discover the greatness that lies within our Pacific young people. This is a gentle reminder of ones significance. We must appreciate their victories and thank them for the amazing things they do, despite the challenges against them because they are all very important.

In 2015 we engaged in numerous youth partnerships and events however there were two I would like to make mention. The National Student Leadership Program (NSLF) held in Canberra was an initiative introduced to us by one of our aligned partners. We were fortunate to receive sponsorship for 5 Pacific young people to attend along with other Pacific youth that came from the Pacific, Brisbane and Melbourne. The impact our young people had on the organisers and participants at this event was enormous to the point of being invited to look at planning our very own Pacifica NSLF to be held in the Islands. Some of our Pacific young people have also been asked to return as small group facilitators for NSLF 2016.

Another program was the Multicultural NSW Youth Night. There are only two events held each year hosted by Multicultural NSW and we the NSWCP had the opportunity to host one of those events. It was a huge success with NSWCP Young Adult reps playing an active role in the planning and preparations for this event. They were not only the MC's for the evening but also hosted Pacific dance workshops, cultural performances and created a song to celebrate diversity. We are extremely proud of our young people for taking up the challenge to host youth of a diverse range of cultures, sharing together as one.

**EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT:** NSWCP accepted an invitation to speak at the Pasifika Empowerment Night. Melissa Waaka a NSWCP executive member attended the event on behalf of the chair. Melissa shared her own pathways to further education on the night and was inspired by what the Pacific university students had organised. We look forward to more opportunities with the Sydney University.

NSWCP also acknowledges the PATHE Program led by Dr Joiji Revoli and his team. Bring your Family to Uni nights has been a tremendous success for those students looking at further education and their families. We also had the opportunity to present one of the awards at the PATHE Graduation Night.

**Special thanks** to those companies and organisations who provide employment, training and/or work experience opportunities for our Pacific communities.

**HEALTH:** NSWCP continues to work with Health NSW in particular Multicultural Health to confirm projects we can collaborate with. There is an urgency to be doing more to raise the awareness on Mental Health within our Pacific communities. Health projects are in the pipeline for 2016.

**CULTURAL HERITAGE:** An invitation was extended to the NSWCP to attend Israel's 67th Independence Day. What a wonderful opportunity to meet with the Israeli community and to share, learn and be inspired by many whom we had the privilege to meet. From accepting this invitation we have continued to attend other events hosted by the Israeli community and we look forward to them joining us at our Pacific Awards Night.

We would like to thank our aligned organisations, project partners for their belief in the NSW Council for Pacific Communities and all their support throughout the year. All of the work we do and the achievements of our Pacific people would not be possible without the support we receive from you.

It is an honour to be your Chairperson.

#### Mal Fruen

## Executive Committee



**Malaemie Fruean**  
Chairperson  
Māori



**Moana Stickland**  
Vice Chairperson  
Cook Island



**Donita Hulme**  
Secretary  
Fijian



**Marlene Utatao O'Brien**  
Treasurer  
Niuean



**Barbara Faauga**  
Public Relations Officer  
Samoan



**Melissa Waaka-Smith**  
Communications  
Māori



**Peter Elers**  
Communications  
Māori



**Faiva Ali**  
Communications  
Samoan



**Selwyn Lloyd**  
Young Adult  
Representative  
Māori



**Patsy Nai**  
Young Adult  
Representative  
Samoan

## Financial and Treasurers Report

### Fakaalofa Lahi Atu

With over 10 years experience in the Finance Industry under my belt I continue to dedicate my time in providing voluntary service to the NSWCPCC.

Our purpose is to ensure the Councils financial records remain accurate, and following good governance standards. With ongoing improvements in accessing current finance data, and producing reports. We look forward to innovative and creative solutions.

### Fakaauae Lahi

**Marlene Utatao - O'Brien**

## Annual Statement

NSW Council for Pacific Communities  
01/07/2014 - 30/06/2015

Financial Statement in AUD Dollars

### Balance @ 30/06/2014

Opening	14,143.64	14,143.64
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### Income

Grants	5,000.00	
Partnership	7,520.00	
Membership	810.00	
Interest	0.37	
<b>Community Event Partnerships</b>		
Pacific Awards Sponsorship & Tickets 2014	21,264.00	
Love Belle Production Sponsorship	2,062.00	
Christmas Movie Night Tickets 2014	630.00	
The Factory Production Tickets	3,500.00	
		40,786.37

### Expenses

Bank Fees	79.65	
<b>Community Events</b>		
Christmas Movie Night 2014 Cinema Hire	700.00	
Pacific Awards 2014 Venue The Cube	22,060.10	
Pacific Awards 2014 Judging, Trophies, Centrepieces etc	6,340.86	
Love Belle Setup & Ticket Sales	2,662.00	
The Factory Tickets	3,500.00	
Sales Other Events	1,521.00	
Catering for Meetings & Workshops	1,532.54	
Youth Week Workshops	542.84	
T Shirts for Urban Youth Council	615.69	
Office & Media Equipment	5,000.00	
Fair Trading A12 & Extension Fee	513.10	
Planning Meetings	233.70	
Stationary	1,045.25	
Website Renewal & Update	1,429.20	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		47,775.93

### Other Income

Term Deposit	20,000.00	
	-	20,000.00

### Total Other Income

Net Income		27,154.08
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