

Media Release

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NEMA to Host Regional Multicultural Conference

The North East Multicultural Association (NEMA) was recently represented at Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria's (ECCV) state-wide conference held in Bendigo. A group of NEMA members made the trip to the conference where they participated in a variety of activities based on the theme of settlement for new migrants. Victoria is undergoing great change in its cultural make up and all regions are seeing increased migration from a wide variety of countries and cultures. Attracting migrants to our region is a necessary strategy to support future social and economic growth and NEMA aims to be well prepared to meet the needs of those new migrants. The ECCV conference was the perfect venue to keep up to date with migration trends and developments in other regions and to familiarise the NEMA members with future needs.

The local group's attendance at the conference also paid dividends in a different way when NEMA's bid to host the 2008 conference in Wangaratta was successful. NEMA president Rozi Parisotto was delighted by the decision and said, "The fact that our bid was successful is recognition of NEMA's hard work, but, more importantly I believe, it is recognition that the North East is a place where migrants are welcomed and valued as productive members of our community."



NEMA president Rozi Parisotto addresses the ECCV Regional Conference in Bendigo.

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