



Aged care workers needed

Last year Canterbury City Community Centre recognised a growing need for women in the Canterbury Bankstown area to find employment with flexible working hours and different avenues of employment.

The aged care industry provides these criteria and with an ageing population, employment prospects are on the increase.

In 2009 under the federal government Jobs Fund initiative the centre was granted money for the Lakemba Workforce Renewal Project. This funding has helped launch a program for women from non-English speaking backgrounds to retrain in aged care. Delivered by TAFE Outreach this program is assisting women to gain confidence, learn about the workforce, study aged care and do practical work experience in aged care settings.

The first course was commenced in February 2010 with 20 women enrolled. On the 24th June these women will graduate with a Certificate 1 in Access to Work & Training and a Statement of Attainment in Aged care plus a First Aid certificate.

For many of these women the prospect of study and getting back into the workforce was overwhelming at the beginning of the course. Now is a different story Carmelita who is one of these students said "I have learned a lot about aged care. I've decided that this is what I want to do helping and supporting older people". Carmelita has already found casual work as a home support worker through doing this course.

As an Outreach program Bankstown TAFE runs the course from a cottage in Lakemba which is the training venue. Providing a friendly homey environment helps the students feel comfortable and has created a special bond within the group. For student Paki moto "the environment in which we learn and the teachers and co-ordinator all have enthusiasm which has helped broaden our minds and I know I have made the right move in my life".

Information and Enrolment day for the next course is Wednesday 30th June at 10am in Lakemba.

Numbers are limited and there are eligibility requirements.

Phone Maureen or Jo on 9758 9601 to book in or find out more about the information.



Australian Hellenic Council (NSW) Inc.

Αυστραλιανό Ελληνικό Συμβούλιο NNO
PO BOX 433 EARLWOOD NSW 2206

A coordinating body for the Australian Hellenic community

MEDIA RELEASE

The Australian Hellenic Council with a strong nationwide delegation from Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, Queensland, and the Australian Capital Territory convened in Canberra yesterday to discuss the development of the Australian National Curriculum – Languages with the Minister for Education Ms Julia Gillard.

Ms Gillard was represented by her Chief Advisor on Education, Ronda Rietveld. Also present were the Federal Member for Hindmarsh, the Hon. Steve Georganas, Senator for South Australia, Nick Xenophon, the Federal Member for Calwell, the Hon. Maria Vamvakinou, and members of their staff. Mrs Sophie Mirabella Federal Member for Indi, apologised for not being able to attend on the day, however a delegation had met with her in Melbourne several days prior.

Ms Rietveld informed the delegates of the framework and the ensuing timeline for the development of the Australian Curriculum – Languages.

She said, "Over the next eighteen months to two years, there are a number of stages the process will go through. First, the Framing Paper will be issued by the Australian Curriculum Assessment Reporting Authority (ACARA) within the next few months. This will be open for public comment for a set period before a more substantial document, outlining the Languages Curriculum is released in early 2011".

According to Ms Rietveld, the forecast landing time for final decisions regarding the Australian Curriculum on Languages is late 2011. It is at this time that the Council of Australian Government Education Ministers (Federal, state and territory) will sign off on the make-up of the Curriculum to be implemented from 2012-2013. This will include details such as the number of languages that will be offered at schools across the nation.

The delegation presented a number of key arguments on the key reasons for languages to be included as a mandatory subject from Kindergarten to year 12, as well as the reasons for Greek to be included as a priority language.

Mr. Georganas and Ms Rietveld commented on the communities pro-active response and the unified approach demonstrated by the Australian Hellenic Council's nation wide delegation.

On behalf of the delegation, National Coordinator Ms Patricia Drivas thanked all Members of Parliament for supporting the language issue in particularly Senator Xenophon and the Hon Steve Georganas, for facilitating the meeting.

Ms Drivas also expressed the delegate's unanimous disappointment that the Minister was unable to attend due to a Cabinet meeting.

Following this meeting the AHC delegates will undertake to follow up on the issue of the inclusion of Greek within the Australian Curriculum – Languages with their state governments as well as with ACARA.



Peter Andre: Cheryl Cole needs a Greek guy

Singer reaches out to Chezza on his new TV show

Peter Andre thinks Cheryl Cole could do with a little Greek loving.

Hosting his first episode of Channel 4's 5 O'Clock Show, Peter asked guest Louis Walsh, 57, how fellow X Factor judge Cheryl was doing since her split from Ashley.

'She looks amazing,' Peter, 37, told the Irishman. 'I think she needs a nice Greek guy!'

Louis is sure that Chezza is going to be all right – with or without a hug from Pete, who was born to Greek Cypriot parents and named Peter James Andrea.

'Cheryl will be fine,' Louis responded, 'she's got a great career.'

Cheryl, 26, filed for divorce from Ashley last week following a string of allegations he cheated on her.

The Girls Aloud star has just launched a new range of branded products, including a tote bag, featuring just the name Cheryl – the surname Cole does not appear on the merchandise.