

Ethnic Broadcasters' Council
of the ACT and Surrounding Districts Inc.
Canberra Multicultural Service 1CMS
Community Radio FM 91.1 MHz
ABN 43 178 039 578

Newsletter

March - April 2007

1CMS Community Radio held its General Meeting on 11 April. Seventeen broadcasters from eleven different language programs took part in a lively review of issues currently facing the station. 1CMS has set itself the objective of providing a vigorous and effective local multicultural radio service for the Canberra community.

At the General Meeting, 1CMS broadcasters appointed a representative to the Youth Committee of the National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council. As part of National Youth Week 2007, **Gemo Virobo** put together a delegation to participate in "Radioactive '07," the Council's multicultural youth broadcasters' forum being held Melbourne on 21 and 22 April.

President **Werner Albrecht** outlined to the General Meeting some of the technical enhancements recently installed at the station's three studios at the Grant Cameron Building in Holder. These included a state-of-the-art satellite GPS timekeeping system. An upgrade to the Uninterrupted Power Supply system is being planned. The President encouraged broadcasters to contribute to the newly-established web site (www.cmsradio.org.au).

1CMS has embarked on a new **training project** which aims to equip the station's broadcasters with the complex skills needed to keep a round-the-clock multicultural radio service running efficiently. The project got under way with a workshop held from 3 to 7 March to produce in-house trainers. Then, on 31 March, ten novice broadcasters began a program of basic training over eight weekends under the guidance of a trainer from the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia (CBAA). As the project develops, it is expected that 1CMS's in-house trainers will mount workshops focussing on specific skills, including refresher courses for broadcasters with prior experience. The new project has been started to fill a gap left by the demise of the Australian Ethnic Radio Training Program. Digital broadcasting and internet broadcasting will provide particular training challenges in the near future.

Applications for a **Community Broadcasting Foundation** Grant (Round 2) closed on 22 March. These grants, available every six months, represent 1CMS's major source of funding, together with the ACT Government Multicultural Station Grants.

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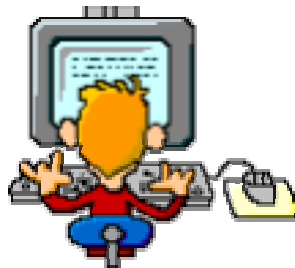
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Broadcasters' Night 2007 was held at the Croatian Football Club in Deakin on 31 March. 1CMS broadcasters are all volunteers. They are normally kept busy preparing and presenting their weekly programs, leaving little time for socialising. The evening provided an opportunity for broadcasters to get to know each other better, as well as to relax and enjoy the entertainment provided by some of the talented performers from Canberra's multicultural community. Photos of the celebration can be viewed on the 1CMS web site.

Three **new multicultural programs** have recently begun broadcasting with 1CMS. They are the Dutch Program, the Vietnamese Program and the Indigenous Australian Program. The station is seeking to ensure that as many of Canberra's multicultural communities as possible - and particularly the newly-emerging ones - have an opportunity to share the multicultural airwaves. There was vigorous discussion at the General Meeting regarding how to ensure that all groups have access to prime-time broadcasting slots. It was noted that as the number of programs grows, the role of each program's Coordinator becomes increasingly important.

The station's new part-time Administrative Officer, **Michal Krolkowski**, has now begun work at the Holder studios. He joins Technical Officer Jens Stephan. Together they work under the direction of the Executive Committee, which is elected by broadcasters and has responsibility for day-to-day management of the station. There was lively discussion at the General Meeting as to how broadcasters could best be kept informed of current issues and encouraged to contribute ideas to improve the services provided by 1CMS to the Canberra community.



The Executive committee 25-4-2007