Hakan Harman

Multicultural NSW
Chief Executive Officer



Hakan is an experienced Senior Executive in both the Public and Private Sectors. His qualifications include a Bachelor Commerce and Master of Public Administration and he is a Fellow of CPA Australia. His areas of expertise include change management, corporate governance, stakeholder and strategic management and organisational leadership.

He has worked at the CBA, Burns Philp, Unilever as well as a number of smaller private organisations including as a Forensic Accountant prior to joining the Public Sector in 2002.

He commenced his career in the NSW Public Sector at the Community Relations Commission and moved to the State Library of NSW as Director Operations Chief Financial Officer in 2010.

In January 2014 he re-joined the Community Relations Commission as Chief Executive Officer and has since led a substantial review of the organisation including a change of name to Multicultural NSW, legislation amendments, and a new vision for the organisation through a three year strategic plan Harmony-In-Action.

Hakan is married and has one son currently at University. He loves Football and is passionate about social justice and community harmony in a culturally diverse society.

Multicultural NSW - Harmony in Action

One of the main roles of Multicultural NSW is to build and maintain a cohesive and harmonious society.

Since 1976, Multicultural NSW (formerly the Ethnic Affairs Commission and Community Relations Commission) has been the key NSW government agency dealing with multicultural affairs, receiving support from both sides of politics.

2014 was a year of significant reform for Multicultural NSW, with the revision of its governing legislation and the development of a visionary strategic plan Harmony-In-Action 2014-2017.

Significant steps have been taken to transform Multicultural NSW by developing a comprehensive Community Engagement Strategy, rethinking its Regional Advisory Councils structure, simplifying the Grants Program, and extending its reach and connection to many new stakeholders.

Language Services as the biggest component of expenditure attributable to the budget of Multicultural NSW is being transformed as is an online presence to add value to decision making across the public sector and beyond.

The Journey to reengage an Agency tells a story, as does its intended vision.

How will it contribute to a multicultural agenda for the next decade?

How is Multicultural NSW for all the people of New South Wales?