

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

2018



POLISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC

**ANNUAL REPORT – Polish Community Council of
Victoria INC. - 2017-2018**

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The 2017 - 2018 Annual Report provides detailed information regarding the services and activities the Polish Community Council of Victoria Inc. organised last year. The Annual Report sets out to create new goals and objectives to improve all services and events.

The Polish Community Council concentrates on activities such as:

- Polish Language Schools Program
- Polish Care Services Bureau

and also concentrates on events such as:

- Picnic for Polish Seniors in Rowville
- PCCV Gala Ball
- Polish Sports Festival
- 28th Polish Seniors' Day in Rowville
- November's Concert Dinner
- The celebration of Poetry
- Celebration of 100 of Poland Independence

Workers at the Polish Community Council of Victoria are bilingual and are aware of customs, culture and religious needs that are significant and valued by clients. Thus the services provided by the Polish Community Council, are carefully planned and delivered to address clients' individual needs.

SERVING THE POLISH COMMUNITY

The Polish Community Council of Victoria Inc. (Federacja Polskich Organizacji w Wiktorii) was established in 1962 as the state's peak Polish organisation or federation of Victoria's Polish associations, organisations and individual grouping of Polish migrants. The Council represents the concerns, needs, aspirations, achievements and interests of the Polish community of Victoria. Its constituency through Victoria comprises over 40 Polish regional and special interest associations.

The role and functions of the Council could be summarised in terms of three key activities:

- Coordination and advocacy
- Information dissemination and exchange
- Community welfare, relations and development

The Polish Community Council's mission is to enrich and enhance the well-being of the Polish-Australian community within the multicultural context of the Victorian community. It aims to achieve this through the fullest participation and involvement of all people of Polish background and establishing relations with relevant organisations in the wider Australian community.

PURPOSES

- To represent the Polish-Australian community of Victoria before all tiers of government in Australia
- To contribute to the formulation of policy on issues affecting the Polish community in accordance with the Access and Equity Strategy of the Australian Commonwealth
- To foster a sense of membership within the Australian multicultural community and to endeavour to develop Polish-Australian cultural and economic cooperation

OBJECTIVES

- To cooperate with and assist in the activities of member organisations
- To initiate and organise social, as well as charitable activities and to conduct community services to assist people in need within the Polish-Australian community
- On behalf of the Polish community, to assist other public benevolent institutions in their endeavours
- To represent the needs, aspiration and achievements of the Polish-Australian community
- To promote and address the issues of the Polish-Australian community within the context of the wider Australian community
- To act as an effective advocate and to analyse government policies on matters relevant to the Polish-Australian community
- To identify new issues requiring further research related to the needs and aspirations of the Polish-Australian community
- To develop strategies to implement the results of research where it will assist the Polish-Australian community
- To facilitate and encourage greater participation in Polish cultural and community activities
- To enhance mechanisms to assist State and Federal bodies in the formulation of their policies, programs and services which affect the Polish-Australian community.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2017 – 2018

Mr Marian Pawlik OAM
President

Dr Sylwia Greda-Bogusz
Vice President
Honorary Secretary, Public Officer
Polish Care Services Liaison Officer

Mrs Edyta Szmyd
Deputy President

Mr Jerzy Wojtkowski
Vice President Honorary Treasurer

Mrs Stanisława Bialy
Social Events Coordinator Seniors Clubs Coordinator

Rev Artur Botur TC
Pastoral Representative

Mrs Eva Hussain
Media/ Member

Mrs Irena Janus-Olchowik
Cultural Events Convener

Mrs Elzbieta Dziedzic
Member

Mr Matthew Kuszner
Youth Liaison Officer Deputy Treasurer

Mr Roman Sawko
Polish School Coordinator

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is my great pleasure to present the 2017-2018 Annual Report.

This year was particularly important for Poles living in Poland and abroad.

The 100th anniversary of Poland's regaining independence was dominated by activities in our work.

We started the celebrations of this great anniversary with the traditional "Ball of the President" at the Polish House "SYRENA" in Rowville. This ball has been permanently entered the calendar of our events and is becoming more and more popular year by year.

The 49th Polish Sport Festival organized in the Polish Club "Albion" was also a success. It is noticeable that citizens from other ethnic backgrounds come to this festival more and more often.

Coordinator of the Polish Schools worked very hard to obtain auxiliary materials for 4 schools associated under the umbrella of the PCCV. I must emphasize that he performed very well with this function.

PCCV conducted lobbying at the State Parliament to obtain permission to exhibit the "RAPORT X" exhibition devoted to Captain Witold Pilecki, the Ulma Family from Markowa, the Warsaw Uprising, and ŻEGOTA - organisation helping Polish Jews during World War II. Lobbying proved effective and the exhibition was shown at Queen's Hall in May this year. On the opening day the exhibition was attended by representatives of the Institute of National Remembrance from Poland and the highest authorities of the Government, State Opposition and Parliament. There were also representative of the Jewish organizations from JCCV, ASPJ and others.

This year, we had also, a historic visit of the President of the Republic of Poland, in Australia. During this visit, the President, honored with high state medals few members from the Federal and State Parliaments, as well as ours polish social activists.

The First Lady visited the Polish School in Rowville and met with teachers and students of all of the Polish Saturday schools.

The Clock Tower in Moonee Ponds and Drum Theater in Dandenong hosted concerts "In Homage to Independence"

In the St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne, there was a Mass for Poland, which was celebrated by the new Archbishop of Melbourne assisted by Polish priests. PCCV

donated to the Archbishop the chasuble and stole, specially bought for the occasion in Poland.

The annual Senior's Day took place in Albion and again turned out to be a great success. Seniors spontaneously came to this meeting from all corners of Melbourne.

In conclusion, I would like to thank my colleagues from the Executive Committee for their hard work. Our member Organisations and the community at large for their ongoing support, Management and Staff, from the Polish Community Care Services Bureau "POLCARE" the only Polish Social Support Bureau, helping polish Senior Citizens, for their outstanding jobs and commitment. Volunteers at all levels for dedicating their time to others, and finally, our diplomats and clergy for their constant support during the whole year.

Mr Marian Pawlik OAM

President PCCV



It has been a busy and exciting year for Polish Community Council of Victoria (PCCV) as an organisation and for me personally. We continue to deliver great outcomes for our all strategic objectives as per the 2016-2020 strategic plan.

All of our programs and Policy and Procedures documents were updated as a part of continuous quality improvement, preparing for forthcoming changes in our industry.

The most important factor that has kept me motivated and enthusiastic over the year is the support of the Committee of Management and the Polish Community Council of Victoria staff, as well as all volunteers.

The Polish Community Council of Victoria Inc (PCCV) is proud to acknowledge the support of the following organisations and their assistance and contribution towards the ongoing development of the service, and the Polish community that it served in 2017-2018:

- Department of Health
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria
- Seniors Rights Victoria
- Carers Victoria
- Palliative Care Victoria
- Polaron
- City of Monash
- City of Melbourne
- City of Greater Dandenong
- City of Casey
- Australian-Croatian Community Services
- Victorian Multicultural Commission
- Jewish Care
- Polish Consulate in Sydney
- Wspolnota Polska
- Ośrodek Doskonalenia Nauczycieli Stowarzyszenia Wspólnota Polska
- Polish Embassy in Canberra
- Instytut Pamięci Narodowej (IPN)

We are proud to acknowledge our numerous community partners:

- Eastern Districts Polish Association
- Albion Club
- Polish Association of Melbourne and Polana Camp
- Miniatura Theatre (Teatr Próba Miniatura)
- White Eagle Club in Geelong
- Polish Charity Association in Ardeer
- The Polish Weekly
- 20 Polish Senior Citizen Clubs in Victoria
- Polish Educational Society in Victoria Inc.
- Pilecki Project Committee
- Polonez Polish Dance and Song Ensemble
- Lowicz Song and Dance Ensemble
- Hufiec Podhale Polish Scouts and Girls Auxiliary

This year I have been responsible for managing:

- HSP Program
- CHSP Program
  - *Social System Development (Friendly Visiting Program & Telelink)
  - *Social Support Groups
- Carers' Group
- Information Technology Senior Group
- Young Disability Group
- Youth Group
- Women's Group
- Presidents of Polish Senior Citizens Clubs' Group
- Elder Abuse Educational Program
- Palliative Care Educational Program

The Polish Community Council of Victoria Inc (PCCV) makes sure that all our programs and services are of the highest quality and in complete accordance with Australian guidelines.

We continued to develop ways to increase awareness and service provision in the community. We held numerous information sessions, at Polish senior citizens clubs, at

cultural associations and at our social support groups. We frequently used Polish media and staff and consumers were interviewed on 3ZZZ, SBS Polish Language radio program.

We are pleased to report that we continued to increase the number of direct clients on packages, ensuring that consumers were well informed of the changes and aware of their choices. Our staff continue to assist consumers to develop wellness and goal directed care plans and facilitate access to services that will lead to healthier lives.

Our programs and services continue to receive positive feedback from our clients, funders and various stakeholders.

The positive results we achieve inspire the the Polish Community Council of Victoria Inc (PCCV) team to further explore our creativity, use our industry networks and continuously improve what we do.

In conclusion, we wish to express our appreciation to all our staff for their hard work, dedication to the community and for their daily quest to enhance the quality of the lives of their clients.

Equally we offer our appreciation to all our volunteers for their time and compassion, without whom our services to isolated elders would not be possible. A note of thanks to all members of PCCV Committee of Management (11 volunteers) for their commitment to the organisation and the community it delivers services to; and for lending their expertise and support to navigate the organisation through a period of fast reform, and a rapidly changing business environment. Special thanks to PCCV President, Marian Pawlik OAM and Dr Sylwia Greda-Bogusz Vice-president and PCS liaison officer.

Bozena Iwanowski
Manager of PCCV



HOME CARE PACKAGES (HCP)

Our ageing community want to remain living in their own home for as long as possible. But as we get older, we may not be able to carry out all of the activities that we used to. A Home Care Package is a government subsidy for a range of personalised services that enable the older person to remain living safely at home. Our role as a registered provider is to provide this support, with all services being determined by the consumer. The consumer directed model of care is central to care planning and service delivery and therefore affect both our office staff and workers who meet with consumers regularly, some even on a daily basis.

Aged Care Reforms introduced in February 2017 changed the way Home Care Packages operated. The most significant change was the portability of packages. Participants could now take their package and funding to another provider. The other crucial element was the elimination of the competitive allocation process, impacting the HCP program at PCCV more positively. We now deliver more services to more people seeking care and support. This year we delivered services to 70 HCP participants. The Home Care Packages Program continues to provide services to elderly who require support to maintain their independence in their home. by providing culturally and linguistically appropriate care. Supports include case managements, home care and support with tasks of daily living. The role of the case manager is important to support and foster independence by providing information that is transparent and easy to understand and to help the participant to make informed choices about their care and lifestyle needs. The packages provide a suite of services from an allocated budget that allows people to remain in their home for as long as possible. The focus of the HCP program is to ensure the care recipient is supported to establish and maintain links with services that will meet their social, physical, medical and emotional needs. The Program is growing and meeting the increased demands from clients requesting culturally specific care options provided by Polish speaking community care workers.

PCCV Case Managers work individually with each of our Home Care Package participants to ensure that they receive the services that they want and when they want it. Our Case Managers also work with each to receive the maximum benefit from their Home Care Package. During the year, Community Care has expanded service and now we also providing registered nurse care.

HCP Service Levels:

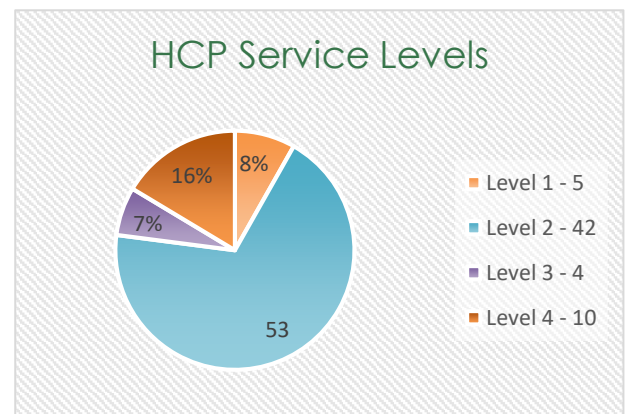
Level 1 & 2	supports with basic or low care needs
Level 3	supports with intermediate care needs
Level 4	supports with high-level care needs

Enhancements to Packaged Care Services:

This year services and resources were optimised to deliver additional health services such as nursing, massage, physiotherapy, mobility and lifestyle equipment, directly improving PCCV's clients' quality of life. PCCV has a list of preferred providers clients can choose from. Full transparency and monthly reporting on clients' budgets permits both clients and Case Managers to explore these additional external support services. In 2017-2018, PCCV has increased overall packaged services to a wide range of level of care as reflected in the relevant chart.

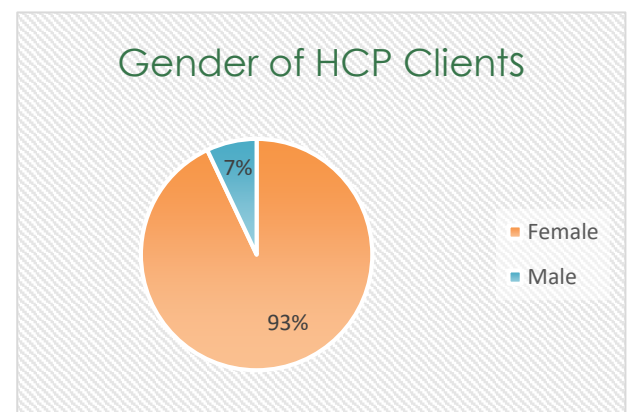
HCP Services Levels – June 2018

HCP Levels	No. Clients
Home Care Level 1	5
Home Care Level 2	42
Home Care Level 3	4
Home Care Level 4	10
Total Clients	61



Gender of HCP Clients – June 2018

Gender	No. Clients
Male	8
Female	53
Total Clients	61



Achievements

We continued to focus on empowering lifestyle choices; being person-centred and consumer-focused; encouraging independence; promoting wellness and healthy ageing; preserving dignity and working in partnership with our clients to achieve outcomes that meet their goals and aspirations. We continue to provide personalised services.

In April 2018 the PCCV had a Quality Audit undertaken by the Commonwealth Department of Health. The unit met all 18 standards and retained its status as an Approved Provider of Aged Care.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Executive Committee, managers and staff, for all their hard work, enthusiasm, excellent care skills. I would also like to thank our clients and their families/carers for their very active support and help. Without all of you, this challenging year of transformation and investment would have been impossible. Team PCCV really shone this year.

Monika Krajewski

**Senior Case Manager
Home Care Packages Program**



The Brokered Services program is now in its 16-th year. In that time PCCV has contributed significantly to the cultural care of hundreds of Polish speaking client's case managed by other organisations. This year the Brokered Services program delivered over 10,000 hours of direct care in the home.

PCCV continues to serve 22 clients from seven different organisations. In 2018, we had 35 brokerage clients in total. This number decreased over the course of the year, as some clients passed away, while others became direct clients of our organisation. We have not had any issues with our Brokerage program over the past year. All parties are very happy with the cooperation

Mariola Brewinska

**Senior Case Manager
and Brokerage Adviser**



CHSP SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUP

Welcome to CHSP - Social Support Groups. All CHSP -SSG are funded to Polish Community Care Services.

Polish Social Support Group commenced in 1993 at Oakleigh.

The Social Support Groups aim is to assist socially isolated frail aged people of Polish speaking background to come together in a supportive environment and participate in varied activities. SSGs fulfil social, cultural, physical, emotional, recreational needs, provide intellectual stimulation, encourage independence and promote the wellness and reablement of our fantastic Polish seniors.

SSG has numerous community and individual benefits. They strengthen capacity-building and provide opportunities for improved health, improve nutrition and physical activity, promote emotional well-being, physical, mental health and enhance quality of life.

We currently run many Social Support Groups:

- SSG Rowville (every Tuesday)
- SSG Brunswick East (every Wednesday)
- SSG Oakleigh (every Thursday)
- Sport SSG Rowville (every second Wednesday)
- Relax SSG Rowville (every second Thursday)
- SSG Doveton (every second Monday)

During the year, over 120 clients took part in the SSG programs which ran over 16,650 hours. We are providing our clients from SSG Rowville, Brunswick, Oakleigh and Doveton with transport to and from the SSG venues by taxis and a company bus driven by our volunteers. Our SSGs are led by 9 staff and 10 volunteers. We also offer practical placements for students engaged in Aged Care studies. All our workers take pride and care in delivering professional service to our client.

Our SSG programs follow a person-centred care model. Clients participate in activities that cater to their personal interests and individual abilities. All activities are based around encouraging independence and promoting active living and positive ageing.

This year we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Poland's Independence, Australia Day, Valentine's Day, International Women's Day, Fat Thursday, Easter, 3rd of May Constitution Day and Polish Flag Day, Mother's Day, Christmas in July, Warsaw Uprising, Father's Day, Seniors' Day at Albion, Picnic at Polish House Syrena in Rowville, Independence Day, Melbourne Cup, "Andrzejki", Christmas and the 100th Birthday of one of our Brunswick SSG clients.

Social Support Groups also hosted presentations from external bodies including: Alzheimers Australia – 'Worried About Your Memory', "8 Things You Need to Know

About Dementia; Elder Abuse – movie, “Behind My Walls”; and CFA and MFB – Safe Home in Hot Weather.

On the 3rd of July 2018, the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency performed an Audit of the Social Support Groups – SSGs. The aim of the visit was to investigate the quality of care and services against three standards. The audit team examined the systems and procedures of our Social Support Groups in detail. The quality control team also visited the Social Support Group in Rowville and talked to our clients, staff and volunteers. After a long day of SSGs being inspected the audit team announced the results. We were very happy to hear that our service received a result of 100%.

I would like to congratulate everyone for the excellent result that we obtained in this audit. I am grateful for the commitment to our clients and employees that has led to another great result. Our achievements are a source of pride and inspire us to continue striving to deliver the high quality of service that the PCCS is known for.

Examples of our client’s feedback

- *I feel here like in the family, thank you that I can still belong to this group, Super Club!*
- *I like everything, and you do not need to change anything.*
- *The food is delicious and varied.*
- *This is the best club which I met and everything here I like because the personnel really do care about us.*
- *Best club in Vitoria for me.*
- *I believe that this form of entertainment and running of the club by our staff and volunteers is very good so that we look forward to the day when we meet again.*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Committee of Management, my CO Bozena Iwanowski, and all staff and volunteers for making PCCS and PCCV a great organisation to work for.

I look forward to the future opportunities and challenges next year.

Malgorzata Zuchowska

SSG Coordinator



CHSP SERVICE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In the 2017/2018 financial year, the Service System Development Program continues to provide services that help frail older people and younger persons with disabilities for them to improve their quality of life and empower them to lead an independent life and remain at home as long as possible.

The program promotes self-esteem among clients by enabling them to use their skills and lifetime experience.

Service System Development Program provides a range of services:

- **Friendly Visiting Program** – Polish-speaking and trained 40 volunteers visit elderly people and younger people with disability at their home. The program operates in all regions of Melbourne.
- **Telelink** – is a form of teleconferencing where up to ten people chat together as a group. Telelink provides valuable social support, interaction and “phone friendship” for isolated older people. This year eight clients are linked every Tuesday for one hour.
- **Carers Group** – provides emotional support and counselling as well as education and development for carers of Polish background. NDIS information session was organized for carers from Polish society at Highway Hotel, Springvale in May. There were 50 people attended.
- **Service System Development Program** also helps community development and provides assistance to 20 Polish Seniors Clubs. The meetings are organized for presidents of Polish Seniors Clubs, volunteers and carers every two months. They have opportunities to undertake training and exchange information, and experiences. They also spend social time together.

During the 2017/2018 financial year 38 clients were supported by 40 volunteers who spent 2461 hours with their clients. Assistance was provided according to their cultural and linguistic needs and it was based on a person-centred care approach that underlines the Polish Community Care Services quality of service. With the support of 40 dedicated volunteers, the Polish Community Care Services is able to have a positive impact on clients’ lives. Volunteers assist the lonely and isolated elderly and younger people with disabilities by visiting them regularly at home. Their commitments and dedication has made a significant difference in the clients’ lives.

Service System Development Program's Annual Events:

- XXVIII Seniors Day in Ardeer
- XIX Seniors Poetry Competition
- International Volunteer Day – excursion to Arthurs Seat with barbeque
- Polish Seniors Picnic, Polish House "Syrena" in Rowville
- National Volunteers Week – exhibition "Report X" at Parliament House and special lunch.

I would like to thank the volunteers for their dedication and commitment. Without the volunteers' involvement, the Service System Development Program would not be successful.

I would like to thank our Committee of Management, Bożena Iwanowski - CEO and all staff of the PCCS and PCCV for their cooperation and support; and I look forward to working with them again next year.

Ewa Kizewski

Service System Development Program Coordinator





COMMUNITY VISITORS SCHEME PROGRAM

„How marvellous it would be if, at the end of the day, each of us could say: today I have performed an act of charity towards others!” – Pope Francis

It is an honour to present this Annual Report to the members and supporters of Polish Community Council of Victoria and to report that the CVS Program has had a very successful year.

During the reporting year the Community Visitor's Scheme (CVS) has been providing companionship to people who are socially isolated or are at risk of social isolation or loneliness in the South, East, North, West Metropolitan areas of Melbourne and Barwon Metropolitan.

In my role as a Coordinator, I am responsible for matching volunteers with seniors who have been identified as being lonely. This involves visiting and interviewing the Community members in their home or care facility and then recruiting 'a friend' who has similar interests and an understanding of the person they will visit.

During my work I have witnessed some amazing friendships that have developed as result of the CVS Program. We have found that the program can be as valuable for the volunteer as it is to the person they befriend – often filling a gap in their own lives.

The many 'once lonely' seniors are grateful for the team of 'friends for lonely people'. A big thank you to those people who volunteer their time, empathy, support, spiritual support and companionship. With the ageing of the population and so many families living in other states or even overseas, we are regularly asked for community visitors.

I would like to encourage anyone with an hour a week to spare to consider supporting the scheme by volunteering.

We have
cooperated
successfully with
more than
**20 Aged Care
Facilities**

CVS Program Clients

Residential Care Recipients	Home Care Recipients	Total
94	7	101

**The oldest
Client
is 99 years old**

CVS Program Visits

Residential Care Recipients	Home Care recipients	Total
834	179	1013

**Our Youngest
Volunteer
is 20 years old
and the oldest
is 78 years old**

Volunteers Resources

Residential Care Recipients	Home Care Recipients	Total
27	7	34

Reflections of volunteers about their work

"In the past, I thought of volunteering as the domain of rich, bored women. I remember whenever I was asked about my plans for retirement, I would reply "I'll think about volunteering, maybe I'll visit people in residential facilities..." One day, Sister Elzbieta – CVS coordinator – suggested that I start visiting women in residential care homes. I'll try – I answered quickly. I felt both joy and anxiety about whether I'd be able to find myself in a new situation. Whether I'd disappoint those entrusted to me. Would my good intentions be enough, because I had no real knowledge and I had never worked with elderly people before.

I visit my ladies once a week and I really like that day – it is a Wednesday. I listen carefully to what they have to say today and let them speak even if they've discussed the topic five or ten times. I bring them colourful magazines to look through. The colourful photos evoke memories and enrich our conversations.

I am grateful to Ms. Magda, the owner of 'Wisla', for collecting Polish newspapers for me.

Each of the ladies is unique – with different intellectual capabilities – but their emotional and spiritual needs are the same. They both need love, warmth, attention, and someone who will make them feel loved and important.

Thank God for volunteering. Volunteering is God's hand on earth."

Maria Sawicka – CVS Volunteer

"The most important thing I get out of volunteering is knowing that I am adding value to someone else's life. Knowing that what I do for that person is appreciated also adds value to my life. The lady that I am visiting is vision impaired and does not speak or understand English well so often I have been able to help her when translation was needed or contacting other institutions. Most important we have fun chatting and playing games. "

Eva Carew-Reid – CVS Volunteer

I would like to thank all our volunteers for their great work. Each volunteer makes a highly valuable contribution to the wellbeing of the migrants and refugees that we provide services for. Without our volunteers we wouldn't be the organisation that we are. Moreover, I would like to appreciate all staff members support and cooperation during my first all working year as a Coordinator.



Sr. Elzbieta Cieslarczyk – CVS Coordinator

CULTURAL CONVENORS REPORT 2017 - 2018

Victoria's Polish community is the largest in Australia. It has made a significant contribution to the Australian multicultural community and to the preservation and promotion of our rich Polish heritage and culture.



Irena Janus-Olchowik

**Cultural Events Convenor
Polish Community Council of Victoria**



As they do every year, in July, eleven of our teaching staff participated in the conference of Australian Ethnic Schools, where they exchanged ideas and learned valuable skills.

In August, Professor Rokosz from the Jagellonian University visited three schools in celebration of the Year of Kopernik. He visited M.Kopernik School in South Melbourne, the Polish School in Rowville as well as the Polish faculty of VSL in Dandenong.

In October, we organised a School Festival and a 'What do you know about Poland' competition at Rowville Polish School. In 2017, M. Kopernik Polish School won the competition, and in the younger group the winners were students from M.J Pilsudski School in Rowville. We also organised a science class for older students, and a magician for the younger classes. We organised a lunch of sausages, drinks and Polish donuts for all participants. It was a very successful event.

Also in October, representatives of the Polish Educational Society participated in the Australian Conference of Community Language Schools in Perth. We also participated in training organised by the Ethnic School Association Victoria.

In November, four Polish Schools participated in the School Concert during the Polish Festival at Federation Square.

At the beginning of the 2018 school year, the School Committee organised a teacher's conference in Ballarat. This was combined with the opening of the Local Methodological Centre. The two-day conference was very successful and a great beginning to the new school year.

In 2018, 111 students were enrolled in Polish language classes. We also organised one Polish class for adults in Rowville.

The Polish Language Matriculation ceremony took place in March of 2018. All graduating students received their diplomas, signed by Consul General RP Mrs Regina Jurkowska. The ceremony took place at the Polish House 'Syrena' in Rowville. Diplomas were handed out by the Honorary Consul General Dr Zbigniew Luk-Kozika.

Students from three of our schools prepared the 3rd of May concert which took place in Essendon. The Concert was a great success and concluded with a dance performance from the Polish dance group "Polonez" (youngest, and middle groups), Polish Scouts and performance students from the F. Chopin Society.

On the 7th of May a very special event took place at the PCCV office. The Consul honoured seven well-deserved Saturday school teachers with medals from the National Education Commission.

The medal recipients were:

- Bożena Kalinowska – VSL Dandenong
- Lidia Gruszka – VSL Dandenong
- Ewa Kizewski – VSL Dandenong
- Dr. Sylwia Greda-Bogusz – Vice-president and Secretary of the PCCV
- Malgorzata Żuchowska – Vice-president of the Polish Educational Society in Victoria (PES)
- Janina Dytman – Vice-president and Secretary of PES
- Monika Krajewska – Coordinator of South Melbourne School and Vice-president of PES

We are working hard to complete all the necessary requirements for the reaccreditation of our school.

This year we also purchased many interesting and useful teaching materials including multimedia, CDs, DVDs and books. These will enhance our teaching and the students' learning.

All the above-mentioned events could only take place thanks to the generous contributions of staff and many organisations. We are very grateful to the Consulate of the Republic of Poland, the Polish Educational Society in Victoria, Polish Educational Commission in Australia, ORPEG – Polish Teachers' Centre in Lublin, ODN 'Wspólnota Polska,' and the Victorian Multicultural Commission.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Sydney for their financial help, without which many projects would not have been possible.

I would like to thank everyone who helped to turn our ideas into realities. I am grateful to the representatives of the PCCV Executive Committee for their assistance and guidance throughout the year. Finally, warmest thanks to all teachers, PCCV employees and school committee volunteers for all their help and hard work. Your dedication and commitment are much appreciated. Thank you.

Bożena Iwanowski

Roman Sawko





The 44th Polish Debutante Ball was held on Saturday 26th of May at the Malvern Town Hall.

The six debutante pairs rehearsed under the direction of Ms Barbara Czech OAM, choreographer for Polonez Song and Dance Ensemble, over 10 Sunday rehearsals. They were taught to waltz and do the Polonaise which has been part of the Debutante tradition since 1966.

The 2018 Ball, which was organised in conjunction with Friends of Polonez, the Polish Community Council of Victoria and Polonez Song and Dance Ensemble, was once again a very enjoyable evening.

The debutantes were presented to Mrs Regina Jurkowska, the Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Sydney and The Honorable Nicholas Wakeling MP, Shadow Minister for Environment.

Guests were also entertained by a performance by The Song and Dance Ensemble Polonez.

The Ball was attended by 200 people who enjoyed the evening with dinner and beverages.

Elizabeth Dziedzic

Polish Community Council of Victoria Inc. is a not-for-profit charitable incorporated association that has been providing community-based quality care and support services to older Polish – Australians as well as their relatives and carers.

PCCV Inc. has been funded by grants and subsidies from Government Departments, clients' contribution, membership fees, donations and fundraising activities with the most significant grants received from Commonwealth and State Departments of Health as well as the Local Government Agencies. I can also report that substantial financial support was given by the Victorian Multicultural Commission, the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland, ODN Wspolnota Polska and Blum Foundation.

In accordance with the auditor's report, the financial figures for the reporting year 2017-2018 state the total income of \$1,450,100.00, the total expenditures of \$1,435,906.00 and the net profit of \$14,194.00. The total equity balance sheet figure is reported as \$199,303.00 and cash of \$478,010.00 available on hand.

I would like to express my deepest thanks to all colleagues from the Board of Management and our staff for their support in the tasks associated with the services and events provided by PCCV Inc.

Jerzy Wojtkowski

Honorary Treasure

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF POLISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC

I have audited the attached financial report, being a special purpose financial report of POLISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC which comprises the Consolidated Profit and Loss Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to and forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30th June 2018. The Association's Committee is responsible for the financial statements. I have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the Association.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The association's committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the financial statements are appropriate to meet the needs of the members and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These auditing standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from misstatement.

I have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the association. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, are appropriate to the needs of the members.

My procedures included examination on a test basis of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Association's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Qualification

Income included in the profit and loss statement of the Council of \$28,305 from fundraising, president's ball, 3 May dinner and general/sundries representing 28.8% of total income has been recorded in the books of account of the Council as when received and banked. I am unable to be satisfied that this is the total receivable due to the nature of this income.

Opinion

In my opinion and subject to the qualification as above, the financial statements are properly drawn up:

- (a) So as to give a true and fair view of:
  - (i) the state of affairs as at 30th June 2018 and the profit and cash flows for the year ended 30th June 2018 and
  - (ii) in accordance with the provisions of Association Incorporation Reform Act 2012.
- (b) In accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.



BRUCE T. HYDON
Chartered Accountant
Registered Company Auditor (7998)
1st November 2018

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF REGAINING INDEPENDENCE OF POLAND

"BALL OF THE PRESIDENT" AT THE POLISH HOUSE "SYRENA" IN ROWVILLE.



THE 49TH POLISH SPORT FESTIVAL ORGANIZED IN THE POLISH CLUB "ALBION"



Senior's Picnic in Ardeer



INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY - excursion to Arthurs Seat with barbeque



CHRISTMAS LUNCH for CLIENTS





POLISH SENIORS PICNIC, POLISH HOUSE "SYRENA" IN ROWVILLE



CONCERT 3RD OF MAY 2018



COMPETITION OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT POLAND – ROWVILLE



THE "RAPORT X" EXHIBITION DEVOTED TO CAPTAIN WITOLD PILECKI, THE ULMA FAMILY FROM MARKOWA, THE WARSAW UPRISING, AND ŻEGOTA





HISTORIC VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND, IN AUSTRALIA.





Concert Dinner on the occasion of Poland's 100th anniversary of regaining independence.



MASS FOR POLAND IN THE ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE.





A concert dinner celebrating the 100th anniversary of regaining independence - ALBION



PCCV AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

AUSTRALIAN-POLISH BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

Polish Retirement Home
5 Percival Street
Bayswater 3153

EASTERN DISTRICTS POLISH ASSOCIATION (MELBOURNE)

Polish House "Syrena"
1325 Stud Road
Rowville Vic 3178

FREDERIC CHOPIN SOCIETY IN VICTORIA

FRIENDS OF "POLONEZ"

KATYN VICTIMS' FAMILIES ASSOCIATION MELB.

KOSCIUSZKO SOCIETY INC (inc Strzelecki Holding - Polish Weekly)

Polish House "Millenium"
296 Nicholson Street
Footscray Vic 3011

"LECHIA" VOLLEY BALL SPORTS CLUB

"LOWICZ" POLISH DANCE ENSEMBLE MELBOURNE

MELBOURNE POLISH CHOIR "SYRENA"

"PODHALE" POLISH GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

"PODHALE" POLISH SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

"POLONEZ" SONG AND DANCE ENSEMBLE OF MELBOURNE

POLISH ART FOUNDATION

POLISH ASSOCIATION IN MELBOURNE & YOUTH CENTRE "POLANA" CAMP INC

P.O. Box 8012
Ferntree Gully, VIC 3156
Australia

POLISH ASSOCIATION OF BALLARAT

26 - 28 Orion Street
Sebastopol Vic 33356

POLISH ASSOCIATION OF ESSENDON & DISTRICT

POLISH CHARITY ASSOCIATION OF SUNSHINE

Polish House "John Paul II"
6 Helene Street
Ardeer Vic 3022

POLISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION IN GEELONG

"White Eagle" Polish House
46 - 48 Fellmongers Street
Breakwater Vic 3219

POLISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION IN ST ALBANS

POLISH CULTURAL & SOCIAL CLUB "POD PALMA" ESSENDON

POLISH EASTERN TERRITORY ASSOCIATION IN MELBOURNE

POLISH EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY IN VICTORIA INC

POLISH EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION SUB-BRANCH NO 3

POLISH HOME ARMY EX-SERVICEMEN & WOMEN ASSOCIATION

POLISH LADIES' ASSOCIATION IN MELBOURNE

POLISH SCOUTS AND GIRL GUIDES AXILIARY

POLISH SECTION RADIO 3ZZZ [E.P.B.A. of Victoria Ltd.]

PO Box 1106
Collingwood Vic 3066

**POLISH SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB
IN GEELONG**

**POLISH SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB
IN ROWVILLE**

**POLISH SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB
IN DONCASTER**

POLISH FESTIVAL@FEDERATION SQUARE

**STRZELECKI HERITAGE INC
POLISH LADIES ASSOCIATION IN
MELBOURNE**

**POLISH SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB MOUNT
WAVERLEY**

Mt. Waverley Community Centre
47 Miller Avenue
Mt. Waverley Vic 3149

**POLISH SPORTING, RECREATION &
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC**
19 Carrington Drive
Albion Vic 3020

**ASSOCIATION OF POLISH PROFESSIONALS
IN AUSTRALIA**

**POLISH SYBIRAKS' ASSOCIATION IN
VICTORIA**

"RODZINA" CLUB INC

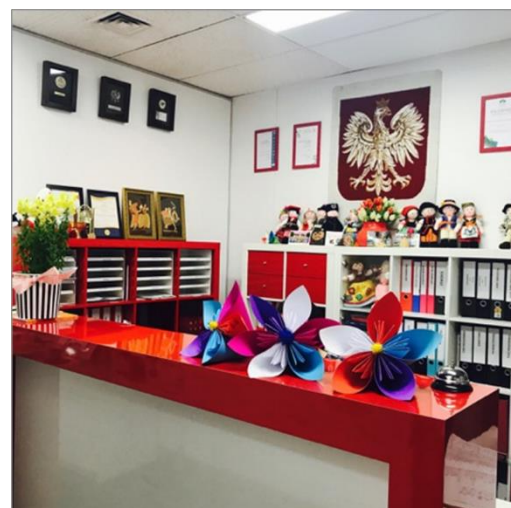
**ST. IGNATIUS POLISH PARISH COMMITTEE
OF RICHMOND**

Sodality House
23 Clifton Street
Richmond Vic 3121

SOCIETY OF POLISH CULTURE IN VICTORIA

**"WESTERN EAGLES" ("POLONIA") SOCCER
CLUB**

"WISLA" SOCCER CLUB



Polish Community Council
of Victoria Inc.

Reg. no. A0000423K

ABN 53 793 599 879

Suite 305, Level 3

3 Chester Street

Oakleigh, VIC 3166

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