



**AISOV**

Australian Iranian  
Society of Victoria  
كانون ايرانيان وىكتوريا

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2021-2022**

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## To our members

AISOV's Management Committee acknowledges that the journey to build a collective, integrated and recognised identity is a long-term exercise but with our community support AISOV resolute in its journey to build further on the strong foundation.

### **Acknowledgement of our Partners**

We are as always most grateful to and thank our supporters including without limitation Manningham City Council, Whitehorse City Council, City of Boroondara, Eastern Community Legal Centre (ECLC), Australian Federal Police, Victorian Multicultural Commission, Parliament of Victoria, Senator Samantha Ratnam, Senator Bruce Atkinson and Victoria Policy and many other organisations and individuals who over the past twelve months have provided in kind and monetary support in our efforts to support our community during these most challenging times.

## Strategic Highlights

### **Strategic planning and findings**

**We want to use the opportunity and appreciate our wonderful community leaders including the Senior Citizen Club, Australian Iranian Youth Society and House of Persia and those who participated in the strategic planning interviews.**

AISOV Management Committee (Management Committee) continued with and completed the strategic planning process it embarked on in the previous year. Unfortunately, with COVID still in play, most interactions took place online which created a limited level of interaction between the Management Committee and the facilitators.

An independent organisation, MosaicLab (ML) with experience in such processes within the community sector, was selected to facilitate the process and guide the Management Committee in the strategic planning process including communication within and outside AISOV willing community leaders and members. We owe a debt of gratitude to those who agreed to and participated in the process. We thank them for their efforts and contributions.

The process was by no means without its flaws and limitations but in our collective views the first step in helping focus the vision of AISOV efforts of the current and immediate future management committee members in supporting the community.

We are very excited by the outcome and aim to move to the next stage of the process by setting specific goals under each mission with budgeted costing so that we can move forward with clarity. Whilst the Vision and Mission has been set in the medium term, they are not set in stone and will be subject to review as the community grows and we get better at assessing progress. As such we would love to receive constructive feedback and are available to answer any queries.

AISOV will have an official launch of its strategic plan soon.



May 2022

Australian Iranian Society of Victoria

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

**AISOV**  
Australian Iranian  
Society of Victoria  
کانون ایرانیان ویکتوریا


**VISION**

AISOV supports and builds solidarity among all Iranians, and aims to preserve cultural values, enhance mutual respect, and create rapport with the broader society.

کانون ایرانیان ویکتوریا بنیادی است برای حمایت و ایجاد همبستگی میان کلیه ایرانیان، که با هدف حفظ ارزش های فرهنگی، احترام متقابل و برقراری ارتباط موثر با جامعه فعالیت می کند

FOCUS AREAS

Focus areas show what the areas of our mission prioritise over the coming five years and cover what we will do to progress the vision as an organisation.



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1

TITLE

### Build solidarity and enhance mutual respect

DESCRIPTION

Build solidarity and enhance mutual respect within the Iranian community to celebrate our diversity.

ایجاد همبستگی و افزایش احترام متقابل بین جامعه ایرانی با ترویج ارزش های مشترک.

2

TITLE

### Develop networks and referral systems

DESCRIPTION

Identify and support the needs of diverse groups of Iranians through building partnership and referral networks.

شناخت نیازها و کمک به ایرانیان از طریق ایجاد شبکه های ارتباطی موثر و ارجاع به سازمان های مرتبط.

3


TITLE

### Build rapport to nurture culture

DESCRIPTION

Connect the community and build rapport with broader society by promotion of shared culture and language.

ترویج فرهنگ و ارزش های زبان مادری با برگزاری برنامه های اجتماعی، فرهنگی و آموزشی و معرفی آن ها به جامعه چند فرهنگی استرالیا.



## Committee's Internal activities

### Advocacy

Management Committee members continued to advocate for Iranian community through different occasions including the community programs of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Advisory groups of City of Manningham and Whitehorse and finding new partners such as East Community Legal Centre.

### Sub-committees Achievements

#### Golbang Writers

This year our committee continued the work through a publication committee including 11 volunteer writers. The publication committee reviewed and approved all the articles.

Golbang now has an open access to all through social media and is publishing online which gives more accessibility to a publication which is used by many Iranianas. The new content design has considered the needs of the whole community including new arrivals and those

who are interested to know about Australian culture and services as well but may face a language barrier.

AISOV published four (4) Golbang volumes in 2021-2022.

Coordinator: Reza Davari

### Social Media - Instagram and Facebook

We realised what our audiences need and desire, so we had posted 90 times in a year with engaging content that our followers could relate to. Almost one story per two days which have reached the maximum attention since we started our page.

We boosted our community engagement and our followers almost doubled up in a year.

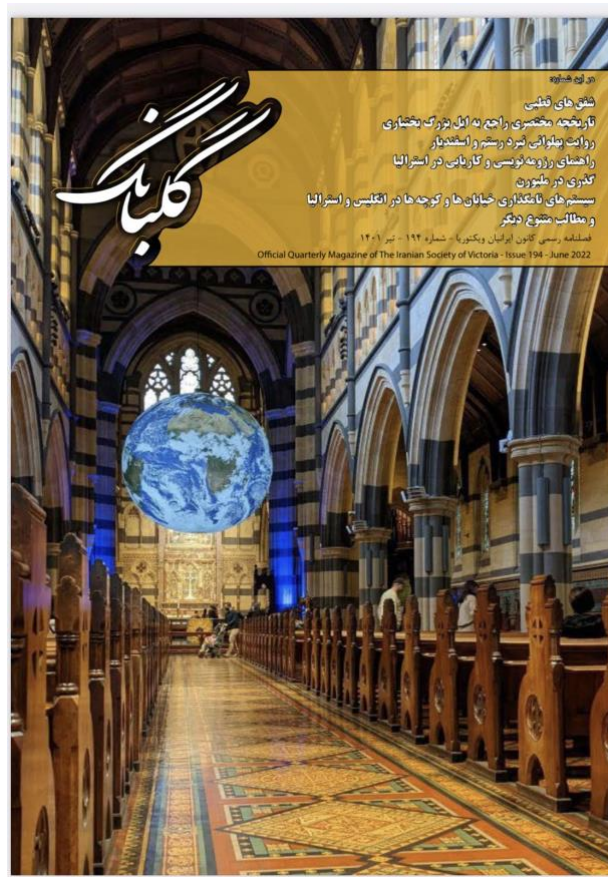
We averaged over 250 likes on each photo and video. Our followers are growing every day and we're getting a ton of engagement on our posts, so it shows us the information that we are sharing is useful to our community.

We always use reliable and professional resources so we could see from the interactions that our posts stand out and attract bigger and better collaborations.

### Website

One of the most important priorities of this year for the Management Committee was enhancement and improvement of AISOV's website. This process has been very complicated due to the language adjustments and as the website should encompass the Farsi language to be more accessible for all.

We established a partnership with Prime Design LTD and utilised their expertise and experience. The website work is ongoing and will be finalised by the end of 2022.





## **Management Committee 2021-2022**

Office holders: Sahar Gholizadeh (President), Kambiz Razmara (Vice-president), Rana Ebrahimi (Treasurer), Sahar Amirian (Secretary)

Committee members: Manijeh Dalaeli, Sedi Salak, Afroz Rahimian, Shabnam Astaraki, Adam Beik, Sedigheh Karimi

## **Operational Highlights**

### **2021-2022 Events**

#### ***R U OK DAY? 09/09/2021 Online 2.5 hours***

Guest Speakers:

Dr Malihe Zare (Subject: Anxiety, depression), Dr Najme Jadidi (Effects of long term lockdowns on Kids), Dr Kazem Madani( lockdown how to manage) , Mr Mohammad sadeghzadeh(How to exercise in lockdown), Yoga Teachers Zhina.

Event Coordinators:

Sahar Gholizadeh, Sedi Salek, Adam Beik

Audience: +4000

Budget: \$500

#### ***MEHREGAN 17/10/2021 Online***

Achievements:

While holding online events is not preferred, AISOV delivered several successful sessions in 2021-2022 and we continued our work online due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Following the Mehregan event, we had heartwarming positive feedback from community and some of the achievements of this event are as per below:

- Mehregan had highest youth participation this year
- 7,479 event reach through our Facebook page
- Being able to have guests from all over the world
- The event was free which made it popular among participants.
- We have also made an informative video clip which could be used in future events

- We delivered over 10 performances from Iran and Australia during this event.

Coordinators: Afroz Rahimian, Sedi Salek

Hosts of the program: Sedi Salek - Farhad Hashemi

Audience: 7,500 across the country



### ***Nowruz in Parliament:***

AISOV could add a parliament of Victoria event in their list and have received overwhelming support from all partisan members of parliament for this event.

Although the event was short notice, we have delivered a few speeches and entertaining performances which were showcased on FaceBook as well.

More than 100 community leaders participated in this in person event and 15 organisational and community leaders of Victoria were among the guests.

Event Coordinators:

Rana Ebrahimi, Sahar Amirian, Sahar Gholizadeh





Photo credit: Manijeh Dalaeli

### **NOWRUZ Dinner:**

AISOV held the Nowruz Dinner similar to other years and 315 ind. attended the event. The feedback from the community is different from our events and other Nowruz programs. Under AISOV's vision, having a Nowruz event is not just a family dinner and a HaftSin, we try our best to raise awareness about Persian Culture among second generation Iranians.

Event Coordinators: All board members

### **Awareness Raising and Educational Workshops**

AISOV Management Committee members delivered several online and in person workshops in collaboration with other communities and organisations including:

- Workshop on common errors on job seeking process and the practical solutions for an effective resume (Pouya Bagheri , Sadaf Tamizkar , Aseman Zenozi From Yarra Foundation and AIMES.
- Prevention of injury and corrective exercise (Mohammad Sadeghzadeh)
- Birds Watching at Blackburn Lake sanctuary (Reza Davari organisations?)
- Tree planting with Melbourne water (Yarra Valley Water)
- Ferdowsi Night (AISOV and Bushwalking)
- 89 people were referred to Settlement Services International for employment and 32 people started their job already.

## **Financial Highlights**

In the period of 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 AISOV:

Received \$ 9,818.18 Grants from City of Whitehorse, xxx and SSI.

Spent \$ 37651.74 on events including Nowruz, Nowruz in Parliament, R U Ok Day, and Mehregan.

Spent \$20344.86 on strategic planning, training, community digital engagement and enhancement of the website.

Received \$953.17 from membership.

AISOV also implemented the pending two projects of 2021 for the \$7,390 of received grants. \$ 2,500 of these grants was allocated to volunteer training.

The account holds \$34,080 as at August 2022 which will be handed over to the new management committee.

## Statement of Incomes and Expenditures – For the year ended 2022

**AUSTRALIAN-IRANIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.**  
**ABN 65 724 518 911**

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

	Year Ended	Year Ended
	30 June 2021	30 June 2022
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Advertising Revenue	1,000.00	-
Grants and Subsidies	21,282.00	9,818.18
Interest Received	16.76	-
Membership Fees	420.00	953.17
Sponsorships	-	-
Surplus from Events	2,363.17	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>25,081.93</b>	<b>10,771.35</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>		
Organisation Charges (Strategic Plan)	163.20	12,408.00
Deficit from Events	-	5,893.04
Equipment, Furniture and Fittings	412.50	-
Volunteer Expenses (Training, Gifts, Volunteer Grant, meeting)	504.00	2,718.43
Printing & Postage	1,870.00	447.00
Insurance	4,829.68	6,201.32
Office Supplies	92.99	-
Post Office Box Rent	141.00	147.42
Rent	355.00	355.90
Telephone, Internet & Website Expenses	674.45	3,216.88
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>9,042.82</b>	<b>31,387.99</b>
<b><u>Surplus/(Deficit) Resulting from Operations</u></b>	<b>16,039.11</b>	<b>(20,616.64)</b>

## Balance Sheet- As at 30 June 2022

### AUSTRALIAN-IRANIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

ABN 65 724 518 911

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	As At 30 June 2021 \$	As At 30 June 2022 \$
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>		
Cash at Bank - Cheque Account	59,297.00	34,386.44
Cash at Bank - Humanitarian Fund Account	2,516.87	2,516.87
Security Deposits	182.10	182.10
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>61,995.97</u>	<u>37,085.41</u>
<b><u>Non-current Assets</u></b>		
Equipment, Furniture & Fittings - at Cost	25,488.27	25,488.27
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(25,488.27)</u>	<u>(25,488.27)</u>
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b><u>Total Assets</u></b>	<u>61,995.97</u>	<u>37,085.41</u>
<b><u>Total Liabilities</u></b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b><u>Net Assets</u></b>	<u>61,995.97</u>	<u>37,085.41</u>
<b><i>Represented By:</i></b>		
<b><u>Accumulated Fund</u></b>		
Balance at the Beginning of the Year	43,449.36	59,297.00
Surplus/(Deficit) Resulting from Operations During the Year	<u>18,554.46</u>	<u>(20,616.64)</u>
<b>Balance at the End of the Year</b>	<u>62,003.82</u>	<u>38,680.36</u>

## What's next

The Management Committee is pleased to announce that we achieved our 2020-2021 goals and will be able to deliver a stronger, more organised and streamlined work to our new members.

However, there is a long way to go to ensure the Australian Iranian Society of Victoria has successfully planned and implemented all its new functions under the new vision.

This journey needs more collaboration, allyship and volunteers. We are looking forward to handing over a strong community organisation to the new generation.