# VOTE TALK in Mandarin & Cantonese



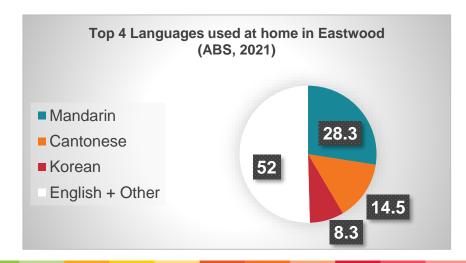
## **Public Library Reference and Information Services Seminar**

3 May 2023 State Library of NSW Presented by Matilda Wong Acting Programs Librarian (Multicultural & Volunteer)

## **Community Connections**

- There is a large CALD community at Eastwood, and many feel disconnected from their new country as they don't understand how the voting systems work but still want to do their civic duty.
- Analysis of language used in the population of Eastwood indicated 28.3% of people spoke Mandarin, followed by Cantonese with 14.5%.
- The complexity of the voting system has certainly posed challenges for our CALD communities.

 Many people from a non-English speaking background have been fined for not voting and others simply don't understand how to properly engage due to language barriers.





## What is the Vote Talk Program?

- It is an initiative delivered by the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW (ECCNSW) in collaboration with the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC).
- Studies have shown that the "formal vote" of our English voters are high but those from non-English speaking communities is quite low, which means that their vote simply doesn't get counted.
- The purpose of this program is to build up the confidence of the CALD community members by helping them better understand how voting and elections work in Australia.
- The aim of this program is to teach the CALD community how to vote and not who to vote for.



### Who facilitated the Vote Talk?

- The information sessions were run by bilingual facilitators from Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW (ECCNSW), in six available languages including:
  - Arabic
  - Cantonese
  - Mandarin
  - Korean
  - Greek
  - Vietnamese
- City of Ryde Libraries had two sessions, one in Mandarin, the other in Cantonese.



Wenying Han (Mandarin facilitator)



Louie Leung (Cantonese facilitator)



## What kind of information was provided?

- ✓ How many levels of Government in Australia
- ✓ 2023 NSW State election overview
- ✓ How can I enrol to vote
- ✓ What if I cannot vote on election day?

- ✓ What assistance is available?
- ✓ How to fill out a ballot paper
- ✓ Working at an election
- ✓ Types of votes



## **Promotional Strategies**

- Create program content on our online booking system Eventbrite
- Create bilingual Flyers in English and Chinese
- Promote in City of Ryde Libraries' monthly e-newsletter
- Promote in City of Ryde Council's "City News" e-newsletter
- Promote on our social media platforms
- Broadcast on SBS Cantonese radio
- Outreach to the Chinese community organisations

#### **Bilingual** Events

#### VOTE TALK 投票与选举资讯讲座 LEAR HOW TO VOTE FOR MANDARIN AND CANTONESE SPEAKERS 普通话和廣東結講解



Vote Talk (Mandarin & English) | 投票与选举资 讯讲座

Tuesday 7 March, 10:30am-12:30pm

Learn all you need to know about voting and elections to make your vote count. Presented in Mandarin and English. 了解对 投票和选手所需更加差的起作和资讯好让您的选票者故。

OOK NOW

Vote Talk (Cantonese & English) | 投票與選舉資 訊講座

Tuesday 14 March, 10:00am-12:00pm

Learn all you need to know about voting and elections to make your vote count. Presented in Cantonese and English. 了解 對投票和遵审所需要知道的運作和證明,好聽您的 滋菜有效。

BOOK NOW



Want to learn more about how elections and voting works in Australia? Our upcoming Vote Talk program aims to make election... See more









#### Learn all you need to know about voting and elections to make your vote count.

Join us at Eastwood Library for an information session about voting and election presented by the Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW (ECC) in partnership with the NSW Electoral Commission

The speakers at this session are all politically neutral.

During the session, the following topics will be covered:

- 2023 NSW State election overview
- How to enrol to vote?
- · What if I can't vote on election day?
- How to fill out the ballot papers?
- · How to register to work at an election?











投票与选举畅谈资讯讲座 (普通话和英语讲解)

日期: 3月7日星期二

地点: 伊士活图书馆

(Eastwood Library)

费用: 全免

必须预约

报名查询请致申

时间:上午十点半至十二点半

#### 了解对投票和选举所需要知道的运作和资讯 好让您的选票有效

欢迎参加在伊士活图书馆(Eastwood Library)举办的投票畅谈讲座。投票 畅谈是由新州选举委员会和新州族裔社区理事会合作的项目。

#### 讲座涵盖的话题包括:

- 2023年新南威尔士州选举概况
- 怎样登记注册成为选民?
- 如果我不能在选举日投票怎么办?
- 如何下确埴写洗票?
- 介绍选民有带薪水的工作机会











### **VOTE TALK**

投票与选举资讯讲座

**Bilingual** Events



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Tuesday 7 March, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Learn all you need to know about voting and elections to make your vote count. Presented in Mandarin and English. 了解对投票和选举所需要知道的运作和资讯好让您的选票有效。

BOOK NOW | 立即预约

#### Vote Talk (Cantonese & English) | 投票與選舉資訊講座

Tuesday 14 March, 10.00am - 12 noon

Learn all you need to know about voting and elections to make your vote count. Presented in Cantonese and English. 了解對投票和選舉所需要知道的運作和資訊,好讓您的選票有效。



### What was the outcome of the Vote Talk?

- We had a great turnout with 17 people attending the Mandarin sessions at Eastwood Library and another 12 attending the Cantonese session at West Ryde Library.
- We were privileged to have ABC TV attend and film the session held at Eastwood Library on Tuesday the 7th of March 2023. They also interviewed an older couple about their past voting experience having lived in Australia for more than 25 years.











The vote talk program is very important for our audience, especially those who are voting for the first time, to understand the process in Australia and how to make their vote count and avoid any chance of their vote being lost."

Manal Al-Ani Producer – Arabic Program SBS Radio

## What did people say about Vote Talk?

"Vote talk participants surprised me with their attitude. Once they saw there is an Official information source in their Language, they were immediately emboldened with ideas on how and when they wish to vote. Not knowing how to vote and how to choose for themselves has constricted their voice in Australia. Louie Leung –

**Cantonese Bilingual Educator** 

"I can't figure out how
the [ballot paper] boxes
need to be filled. Even if I
just know how to fill out
the boxes would mean I
can be independent and
not be so lost without my
husband next to me."
Mary Zhang –
Eastwood Participant



## Would you like to get involved in the next Vote Talk Program?

Speak to a bilingual facilitator in your language or request a call for a tailor made vote talk experience

Email: votetalk@eccnsw.org.au

admin@eccnsw.org.au

Phone:

ECCNSW: (02) 93190288

General information about elections: Australian Electoral Commission: 132 326 NSW Electoral Commission: 1300 135 736

Visit the vote talk website: <a href="https://www.votetalk.org.au">https://www.votetalk.org.au</a>

ECCNSW Address: 221 Cope Street Waterloo NSW 2017



## Questions







