



Monday, December 09, 2024

Community Gathers to Honor Stefan Romaniw OAM in a Memorial Evening of Remembrance

Community Languages Victoria (CLV) and Community Languages Australia (CLA) hosted a heartfelt memorial evening on Saturday, 7 December 2024, at the Ukrainian Community Centre in Essendon, celebrating the life and enduring contributions of the late Stefan Romaniw OAM. The event brought together family, friends, colleagues, and community members to pay tribute to a visionary leader in multicultural education and advocacy.

The evening commenced with a warm welcome and refreshments, setting a reflective tone for the proceedings. Mr Fahry Abubaker, CLV Executive Officer, opened the program by outlining the evening's schedule and highlighting the significance of Stefan's work.

Mr Tassos Douvartzides, President of the CLV Executive Committee, emphasised Stefan's unwavering commitment to language education and his instrumental role in promoting cultural diversity across Australia.

Attendees were moved by a tribute video curated by the CLV Team & Committee, showcasing Stefan's lifelong dedication and achievements. This was followed by a special address from Mr Enzo Sirna AM, CLA Deputy Chair, who shared personal anecdotes reflecting Stefan's profound impact on the multicultural landscape.

The program continued with a poignant speech by Stefan's son, Mr Peter Romaniw, offering intimate insights into his father's passion for language and culture. A musical tribute by Stefan's grandchildren added a deeply personal touch, celebrating his love for the arts. In recognition of Stefan's significant contributions, a commemorative plaque was presented to his family symbolising the lasting legacy he leaves behind.

The evening also provided an open floor for guests to share their memories and reflections, fostering a sense of community and shared appreciation for Stefan's work. The event concluded with closing remarks and expressions of gratitude to all attendees.

This memorial evening honoured Stefan Romaniw's remarkable achievements and underscored the enduring impact of his dedication to multiculturalism and community language education. His legacy continues to inspire and guide the community he served so passionately.

View the Tribute Video here: <https://bit.ly/StefanTributeVideo>

View social media post by community member Nataliya Poshyvaylo-Towler on CLA Page [HERE](#).

Kind regards,

Fahry Abubaker | Executive Officer

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I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which I work, and pay my respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging.





Memorial Evening Program

Welcome to Country - Prof Mark Rose

Housekeeping - Heba El-Hakim

Opening & Evening Program - Mr Fahry Abubaker

Keynote Address - Mr Tassos Douvartzides, CLV President

tribute Video / Slideshow

Special Address - Mr Enzo Sirna, CLA Deputy Chair

Special Address - Mr Peter Romaniw

Musical Tribute by Stefan's Group

Ensemble & Medal Presentation

Reflections & Tributes - Opening

Closing Remarks

