



The Carlton Residents Association Inc.

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P.O.Box 1140 Carlton Vic 3053

5th November 2016

The Hon. Peter Dutton, MP
Minister for Immigration and Border Protection
Parliament House
Canberra ACT

Subject: Carlton Residents Association's Support for Omotayo Daib's residency in Australia

Dear Minister,

This is a letter in support of Mr Omotayo Daib's continued residency in Australia.

The Carlton Resident Association's primary purpose is to promote a sense of community, preserve our build heritage and enhance the amenity of Carlton. Carlton is an inner city suburb that is also a vibrant multicultural centre including European influences and more recently, home for a community of African-Australian residents.

Mr Daib is well known to a number of CRA members through his role as the Community Hub Officer at the Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre since 2015. He makes unique and highly valued contributions to the Carlton Community through his role. We believe it is in the interests of our constituents that he to be allowed to continue to do so.

- **Community Hub Officer**

Mr Daib is currently employed as the Community Hub Officer at the Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre. The Centre is a state-of-the-art, modern facility with everything a community could dream of: children's room and story time, art rooms including 3-D printers, recording studio, computer rooms for training, meeting rooms, community lounge, extensive book collection.

This facility is the result of the many years of lobbying by the CRA and constitutes a key community resource financed by the City of Melbourne. Mr Daib was selected for this position by an open and competitive process, and is therefore the best person for the job. By all reports, his work is excellent, and Mr Daib is well liked and appreciated by our constituents.



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- **Liaison with the African Australian community in Carlton**

Carlton is composed of approximately 15,000 people, in roughly equal parts: private residents, international students, and public housing tenants. We are proud of the fact that our public housing residents are well-integrated and accepted in our community. Through local community facilities such as the Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre and also multicultural festivals like 'Harmony Day' they are also encouraged to play a positive role as a community group in Carlton.

A significant part of the local Carlton public housing community are of African descent. Some public housing tenants from the Horn of Africa are isolated on the Estates and not integrated into the community. These community members can often feel excluded from mainstream institutions.

Mr Daib has a deep personal understanding of African culture and combined with a community oriented view, he is able to bridge the gap between the African-Australian community and others in Carlton. This contributes enormously to greater inclusiveness between the African community and more mainstream institutions.

In his work, Mr Daib plays a very important role in liaising with, guiding, inviting and supporting our African Australian community into the Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre. He helps make these community members, and every community member, feel included and welcome. In feeling welcome, community members can access all of the important facilities and resources that help with integration.

- **Model new migrant**

Mr Daib is a model migrant. He is employed. He supports his family. He plays a visible and positive role in the community. According to the ABS 2011 Census of Population and Housing, fully 63 per cent of the population of Carlton were migrants in 2011, and Carlton is one of the top three migrant destinations in the Melbourne electorate.¹

Mr Daib plays a visible and critical role as a model migrant: self-supporting, community oriented contributor to the Carlton community. In so doing, he sets a standard for other migrants, but also helps to ameliorate the suspicions and prejudices which threaten to damage the cohesiveness of our diverse community. This is very valuable to Carlton.

¹ <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/lookup/4102.0main+features102014>



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We understand the challenges faced by the Government in deciding matters related to immigration and refugees.

We understand the ultimate role of immigration policy to ensure that immigration helps build a better and stronger Australia.

Through his work in the multicultural and multi-faceted Carlton community, Mr Daib has proved that his continued residency does just that.

We therefore respectfully request that you exercise your discretion to allow us to continue to benefit from his presence.

Yours faithfully

Farida Fleming
Carlton Residents Association
Committee Member

cc Adam Bandt MP, Federal Member for Melbourne
Ellen Sandell MLA, Member for Melbourne
Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and Councillors, City of Melbourne
Mr Ben Rimmer, CEO City of Melbourne