



Sydney, NSW, Fri 15 Dec 2023

**Arab Council Australia's 2023 AGM**  
**An evening for the community**  
**In grief, compassion & perseverance**

Arab Council Australia (Council) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) last night on Thursday 14 December 2023 at their Fairfield East office. The event was well attended by members, colleagues, supporters and friends.

As well as AGM business, the evening provided a space for the community to come together in grief, compassion and perseverance following the trauma of the war on Gaza and escalating violence in the West Bank in recent months.

Those in attendance expressed the pain, distress and trauma of the community in Australia, citing the lack of support from the political class and in public discourse as being doubly impactful. They also expressed their hope for a better world in light of the unprecedented solidarity on the street locally and globally.

The evening was Co-Chaired by Zahia Charida, Palestinian activist and community development worker and Nikolai Haddad, lawyer, activist and long-term member of Council. Principal Solicitor of Hanna Legal, Nicholas Hanna, was the Returning Officer.

In addition to the presentation of reports by executives, a new Board was elected (list is on the following page).

The 2023 Annual Report which was endorsed at the meeting is available on Council's website [arabcouncil.org.au](http://arabcouncil.org.au).

-End-

Media statement

**Enquiries**

**Randa Kattan**

**Chief Executive Officer**

+ 61 2 9709 4333



**Board of Arab Council Australia**  
as elected at the Annual General Meeting on  
**Thursday, 14 December 2023**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Chairperson</b>	Rana Saab
<b>Deputy Chairperson</b>	Widad Farhan
<b>Deputy Chairperson</b>	Mary Shalhoub
<b>Secretary</b>	Akram Mardini
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jamal Hamdan
<b>Board Member</b>	Wafa Jeha
<b>Board Member</b>	Reeda Kassis
<b>Board Member</b>	Sophia Nasser
<b>Board Member</b>	Samih Sayed
<b>Board Member</b>	Elias Zarzour
<b>Chief Executive Officer &amp; Public Officer</b>	Randa Kattan

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