



9 September 2025

Reconciliation Victoria welcomes Treaty Bill

Reconciliation Victoria is thrilled that Australia's first Treaty bill is being tabled today in the Victorian Parliament.

Reaching this point has been a long and difficult road, but unquestionably worth the blood, sweat and tears involved.

No one who has heard the testimony given to the Yoorrook Justice Commission or read its findings can doubt that Treaty is the only possible next step for Victoria to take.

Treaty will bring Indigenous and non-indigenous Victorians together as never before, and be a powerful force for healing.

It will deliver huge benefits for all Victorians. It will also deliver practical solutions to a range of issues that have arisen from dispossession and discrimination.

Through Treaty, Australia's most progressive state, Victoria, is leading the way for the rest of Australia, and starting its run to catch up with New Zealand, Canada and the United States which have all had treaties for hundreds of years.

The tabling of this bill is testament to the skill and determination of the First Peoples Assembly of Victoria, which has shown great dedication in steering the progress of Treaty over many years.

It is also a tribute to the countless Aboriginal people who have fought for justice and a fair go since the first settlers arrived in Victoria - and often despaired of ever achieving it.

The Victorian Government must also be commended for its foresight and the support it has given to Treaty.

Reconciliation Victoria Co-Chairs Professor Andrew Gunstone and Auntie Gina Bundle said:

"As the peak statewide reconciliation body, Reconciliation Victoria is proud to be an Ally and walk with Victorian Aboriginal people. Along with our many local reconciliation groups, we have been vocal advocates for and supporters of Treaty for many years."

"A new day is dawning in Victoria of which all Victorians can be very proud."

Contact: info@reconciliationvic.org.au

Phone: 0499 922 326

Reconciliation Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria, and recognises First Peoples continuing connection to lands, waters, and community. We pay our respects to Elders past and present who carry the memories, traditions, cultures, and aspirations of First Peoples, and who forge the path ahead for emerging leaders. We dedicate ourselves to working respectfully with and guided by First Peoples, and to listen and amplify the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in all areas of our work.