Fact, Australia is the most ethnically diverse country in the world

Many of us have always known Australia is a successful multicultural nation but now we can boast about the fact that Australia is the most ethnically diverse country in the world. With 26% of Australians being born overseas and 49% of people having at least one parent born overseas, Australia has 100 religions and 300 ethnic groups in our cultural melting pot. “The Census shows that Australia has a higher proportion of overseas-born people (26%) than the United States (14%), Canada (22%) and New Zealand (23%). What about the United Kingdom, you say? Not even close (13%).” Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 Census.

Proudly, Victoria is the most diverse state within Australia with an overall population of 5,937,481, our median age is 37.3. “ECCV is honoured to continue its work as a representative to more than half of the state’s population who come from culturally diverse backgrounds. ECCV believes that our workforce should reflect the diversity of our society” says Eddie Micallef, ECCV Chairperson.

More than 30% of Victorians are born overseas and 23.1% speaks a language other than English at home. Migrants’ proficiency of spoken English is at 49.5%. Asian Victorians make up 9.9% of our community, Europeans hold 10.7% and African and Middle Eastern Victorians have grown to a combined 2.8%. Over 60% of migrants are Australian citizen with 35.2% not having Australian citizenship.

“While the Census provides plenty of info on the ‘typical’ Australian, it also shows we’re a big, diverse community. There’s nothing typical about Australians.” Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 Census. “Language services are an important part of our health service” states Mr. Micallef.

For more information and/or media comment, please contact Leenie Fabri, Communications & Media Officer, lfabri@eccv.org.au / 0421 433 049

Reference:
Cultural Diversity in Australia 2016