



**MINISTER FOR YOUTH LAUNCHES
ECCV INTERCULTURAL YOUNG ADVOCACY LEADERS PROGRAM**

May 24th, 2018

The Hon. Jenny Mikakos MP, Minister for Youth officially launched the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria Intercultural Young Advocacy Leaders (IYAL) program on Wednesday 23rd May at Parliament House. The ECCV Chairperson, Cr. Kris Pavlidis acknowledged: “the significance of the Minister’s support demonstrates great faith in the work of the ECCV and our Intercultural Young Advocacy Leaders program”.

The IYAL program is a pathway for young people from culturally diverse backgrounds to develop governance experience and join the ECCV board of directors. ECCV ran a successful pilot of the IYAL program bringing together a diverse group of next-generation leaders who add another important voice for multicultural Victoria. During this four months pilot the young advocacy leaders received awareness raising sessions to enhance their knowledge and skills of governance and leadership in our culturally diverse community.

The current board of directors have supported this initiative with the leadership of the chairperson, Cr. Kris Pavlidis who says “the program steers ECCV with 40 years of pioneering work towards a succession plan that is cemented into our governance structures securing our future.” An IYAL member said, “It feels good to see that Multiculturalism is supported by so many senior decision makers including politicians”

The IYAL group members include: Amali Aluthgamage, Anatoli Amanatidis, Loar Deng, Lisa Do, Kevin Kapeke, Rini Mowson, Minh Nguyen, Savindhi Perera-Jainudeen, Kenny Tran, and Mohammed Yassin.

Further information about the IYAL program, its members and how to get involved can be found at www.eccv.org.au

For more information and/or media comment, please contact Leenie Fabri, Communications & Media Officer, lfabri@eccv.org.au / 0422 480 319