



Wednesday 22 May

### **ECCV urges Morrison Government to demonstrate zero tolerance of racism and hate speech**

The Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV) congratulates the Federal Coalition on its return to Government following Saturday's election.

ECCV Chairperson, Cr Kris Pavlidis, said ECCV "looks forward to continuing to work with all levels of government on matters of interest to all Australians from all culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds."

"As a matter of urgency, ECCV calls on the Government to make it a priority to address the racism and hate speech that continue to blight Australian society," Cr Pavlidis said.

"ECCV will be leading an Anti-Racism Campaign and we look forward to working with Government at all levels to ensure that our community is a safe and welcoming place for all Australians.

"ECCV firmly believes that Australia's multiculturalism and diversity is one of our greatest strengths, and that with our support our multicultural society can flourish and continue to enrich the lives of all Australians.

"In particular, ECCV is pleased that a re-elected Morrison Government has committed to invest \$5 million in an Accelerator Support Program to assist migrants to develop start-up businesses, and \$10 million in a network of navigators to assist people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds to better understand and access Australia's aged care system.

"ECCV would like to see the Government further invest in capacity-building measures to support the delivery of specific aged care to the community," Cr Pavlidis said.

"It is crucial that the re-elected Government will minimize delays in the processing of citizenship applications, to ensure that those who wish to formalise their commitment to Australia by becoming citizens, do not face unnecessary stress and uncertainty.

"ECCV welcomes the pre-election announcement by the Coalition of a Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability. ECCV recommends strategies to ensure that all Australians are able to successfully access disability support services and the NDIS."

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