



Monday 27 May

ECCV commends the Andrews Labor Government on Increased Budget Spend for a successful Multicultural Victoria

The Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV) applauds the Victorian Government for the significant announcements made today as part of the State Budget 2019/20.

ECCV Chairperson, Cr Kris Pavlidis welcomed the announcement of a further \$63.1 million in funding to support Victoria's multicultural communities.

"This increased investment will continue to support services and programs to meet the needs of Victoria's growing culturally and linguistically diverse communities," Cr Pavlidis said.

"As part of this commitment we are pleased with the announcement of \$27.1 million to upgrade seven culturally specific aged care facilities, and to purchase land for a further three.

"ECCV has always emphasised the importance of culturally-appropriate aged care, and we believe that this investment will provide the care that is needed."

Cr Pavlidis expressed appreciation that the Government had delivered on its promise to provide a grant of \$4,000 to senior citizens' clubs to assist them in holding cultural activities for their members.

"This is a significant boost to our seniors' clubs that will make an important difference to their health and wellbeing. We urge the Government to provide an ongoing source of funds to ensure that these vital support structures remain financially viable into the future.

"ECCV congratulates the government on its commitment of \$2 million to support social cohesion and promote respect for Victoria's diverse communities through its Anti-Racism Action Plan.

"We are very pleased that the Government is prepared to confront the issue of discrimination and hate speech head-on, and ECCV looks forward to working closely with the Government to implement anti-racism strategies as part of this campaign.

"ECCV commends the Government on its commitment of an additional \$8.8 million funding for Jobs Victoria, to assist disadvantaged Victorians to find employment.

"Targeted support should include funds for community organisations to provide culturally appropriate casework and job search assistance for culturally diverse jobseekers, as recommended in ECCV's 2019/20 Pre-Budget Submission."

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