



Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearings

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

The Hon Jeanette Powell MP
22 May 2013



Aboriginal Victorians

- Over 47,000 Aboriginal people live in Victoria (2011)
- By 2021 the Aboriginal population in Victoria is projected to rise to over 80,000 people
- The median age is 22 years for Aboriginal Victorians, compared with 37 years for non-Aboriginal people
- Just over 50% of Aboriginal people live in metropolitan Melbourne
- 55% are Aboriginal youth under 25 years



Victorian Government's commitment to Aboriginal Affairs

- The Victorian Government is committed to improving outcomes for Aboriginal Victorians
- The Government released the *Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework 2013-2018* on 22 November 2012
- The VAAF:
 - makes clear the commitment to sustained and strategic effort to close the gaps;
 - respects and recognises Aboriginal culture; and
 - sets clear targets and monitors a range of measures



Aboriginal Affairs 2013-14 Budget Commitments

- Overall budget funding to OAAV of \$18.9 million in 2013-14
- Funding of \$5.1 million over 4 years for *Healing the Stolen Generations*
- Funding of \$1.5 million in 2013-14 for *Building Effective Registered Aboriginal Parties*, including:
 - support Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs);
 - continue the Right People for Country Project; and
 - respond to Parliamentary Inquiry in the Establishment and Effectiveness of RAPs and the Review of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.



Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria Structural Reform

- Merger of the Aboriginal Affairs Taskforce and Aboriginal Affairs Victoria
- The Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria formed and from July 2013 will be part of Department of Premier and Cabinet. Key roles are:
 - Coordinating the delivery of whole of government priorities in Aboriginal Affairs;
 - Policy development and reform;
 - Building and strengthening community engagement with Victorian Aboriginal organisations and community; and
 - Protecting and managing Aboriginal cultural heritage.



Key Achievements

- Victorian Indigenous Honour Roll 2012
- The Parliament Inquiry into the Establishment and Effectiveness of RAPs and Review of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*
- Release of the *Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework 2013-2018* in November 2012
- Victorian Aboriginal Economic Development Summit
- Draft Victorian Aboriginal Economic Strategy
- Ministerial Roundtables with Aboriginal leaders
- Ricci Marks Award 2012
- Local Indigenous Networks



Forward Agenda for Aboriginal Affairs

- Economic participation and development
- Vulnerable children and families
- Cultural heritage protection and management
- Services are accessible and inclusive – health, education, training, justice and community services