

Ngabun-Bambunj Aboriginal education and engagement plan 2025 to 2027

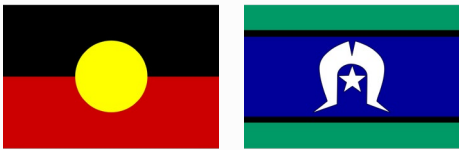
Easy Read version



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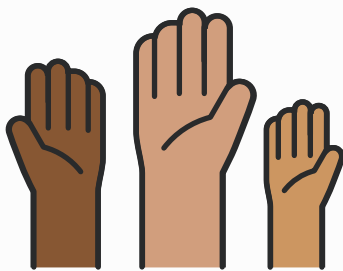
Acknowledgement of Country



We acknowledge that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the first to care for Country.



Country is the land we work on.



We celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' important role in the community.



We respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples':

- history
- culture
- past and present Elders.



Respect means we celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' strong connection to the land, water, and sea.

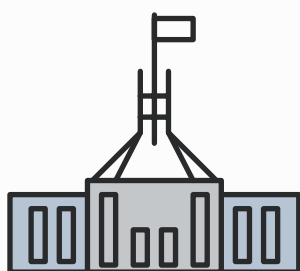


Elders know a lot about culture and history and are very important to the community.

About our plan



This plan is from the Victorian Electoral Commission.



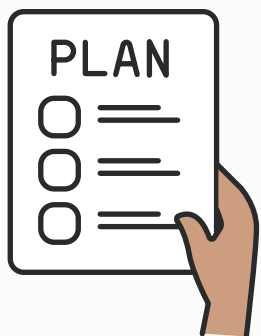
We help people in Victoria vote.



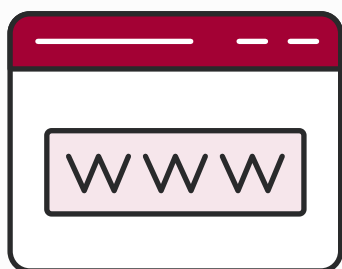
We wrote this plan to tell you about how we want to make things better for Aboriginal people in Victoria.



This is an Easy Read summary.
Summary means we only include
our most important ideas.



When we write our plan, we mean our
Aboriginal education and engagement plan.

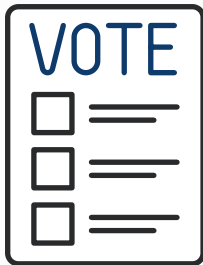


You can read the full version of
our plan on [our website](#).



You can also find our contact information
on page 23 at the end of our plan.

About the Victorian Electoral Commission



We hold local council elections
and state elections in Victoria.
Elections are where people vote.



When you vote, you help choose
who is part of government.

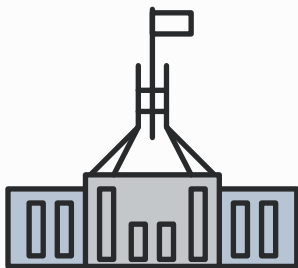


In Australia, people get to vote because
everyone is part of a democracy. This means
you get to help decide how things happen.

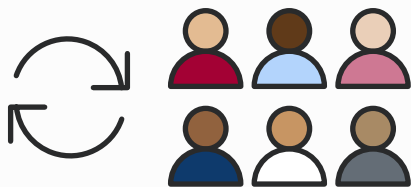


We also do other important activities, like:

- keep a list of all the people who vote in elections in Victoria
- help people in Victoria know how, when, and where to vote
- make sure people follow the law during an election.



Politicians are the people in government.



We care about the work we do.
We make sure we improve what
we do for the community.



To improve, we work with 5 groups that represent people who might need extra help to be part of our democracy.

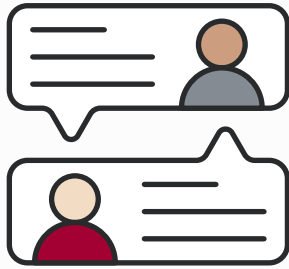
The 5 groups we work with are:

- the Aboriginal Advisory Group
- the Electoral Access Advisory Group
- the Prisons and Without a Home Advisory Group
- the Young People Advisory Group
- the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Advisory Group.

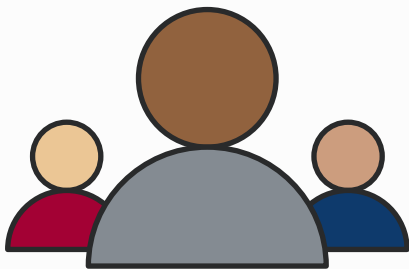


These groups help us understand what people need and want.

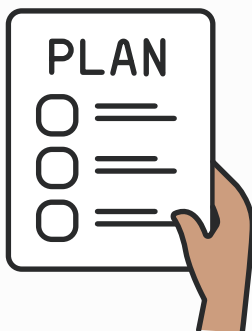
How we made our plan



To make our plan, we talked to Aboriginal people for 3 years.



We also learned about Aboriginal culture. For example, we worked with Aboriginal leaders in the community.



Aboriginal leaders helped us learn about what we needed to put in our plan.



We looked at other plans about
Aboriginal self-determination.



These plans told us about important
things we should do, like:

- respect Aboriginal culture
- make sure Aboriginal people have
self-determination
- understand the trauma that Aboriginal
people have had in the past.



Trauma is when you experience
something that harms your mental
health for a long time afterwards.



Feedback is when people tell us what they think about a topic.



We got feedback about the problems Aboriginal people might have.

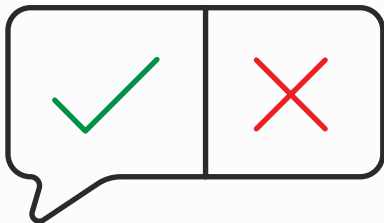


We learnt new things from the feedback.

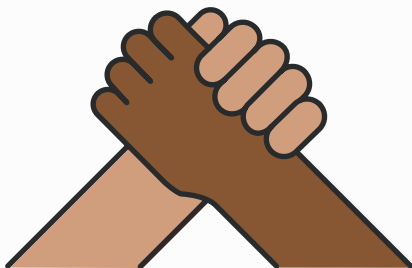
What we want to make better



We want to make sure Aboriginal people in Victoria have self-determination.



Self-determination means people have the right to make their own decisions about their future.



We want to respect the history and culture of Aboriginal people in Victoria.



We want Aboriginal people to trust how elections are done.



We want everyone to be included.
For example, we want everyone to learn about how an election happens and how they can vote.

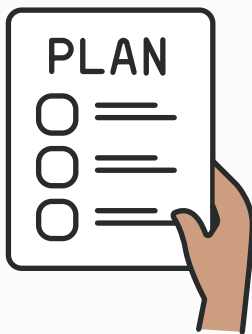


We also want to give support to make sure everyone is a part of our democracy.

How we will make things better

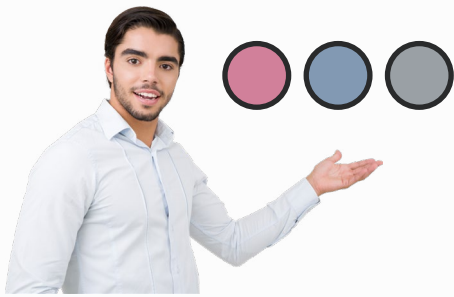


We have some goals to make things better.



The goals of our plan are to:

- make sure our workplace supports Aboriginal self-determination
- learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures
- give Aboriginal people better information about elections
- give Aboriginal people more support to be part of elections.



We have 3 things we want to focus on to get our goals done:

- cultural safety
- community, capability, and connection
- cultural competency and representation.

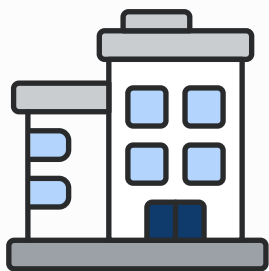


Cultural safety

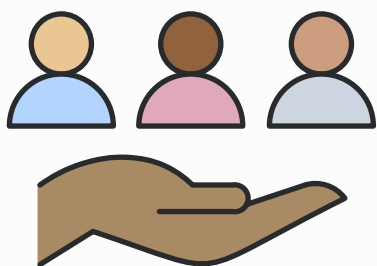
This means people from all cultures are treated equal and feel respected.



To respect and celebrate Aboriginal cultures, we will include it when we make things. For example, information documents.



We will make it easier for Aboriginal people to take part in elections. For example, we might organise for people to vote at Aboriginal service centres.



Community, capability, and connection

This means supporting people to work together, learn skills and feel included.



We will make sure people in Aboriginal communities get better information about democracy.



We will work with Aboriginal groups to make leadership programs.



Leadership is when people or groups work together to make goals happen.

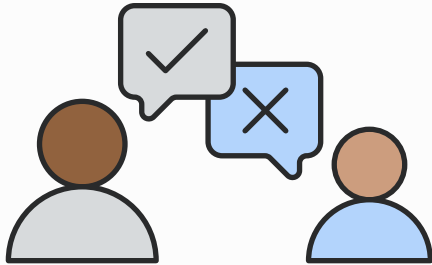


We will also run cultural and community events.

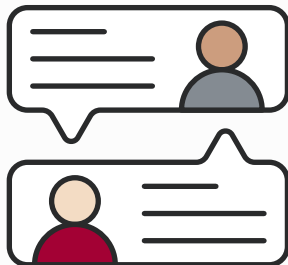


Cultural competency and representation

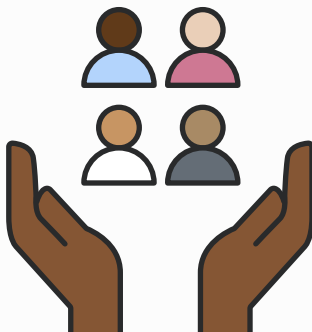
This means people who are not Aboriginal learn about Aboriginal cultures.



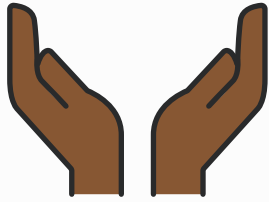
It is also when Aboriginal workers and community members get choices about things that are important to them.



We will talk with Aboriginal leaders.



We will support the Aboriginal Advisory Group.



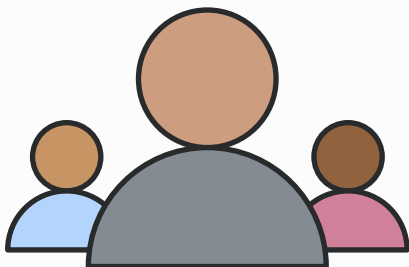
We will find ways to support our Aboriginal workers.



We will include Aboriginal people in decisions. For example, we will make sure they help us decide about Aboriginal services and policies.



We will give our workers training to understand more about Aboriginal cultures.



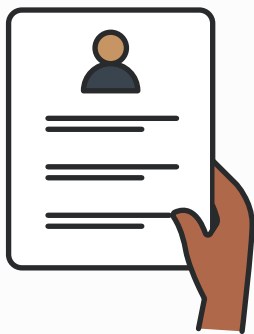
We will also make sure we have leaders that are Aboriginal and that represent Aboriginal people.

How we will know if our plan is working

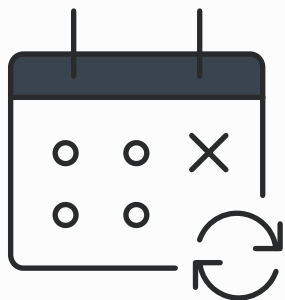


We will know our plan is working if more Aboriginal people:

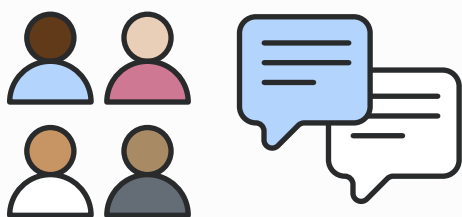
- want to vote
- vote
- feel supported
- get jobs with us
- share information about our services for Aboriginal people.



We will know more about how our plan is working when we get more information about Aboriginal people.

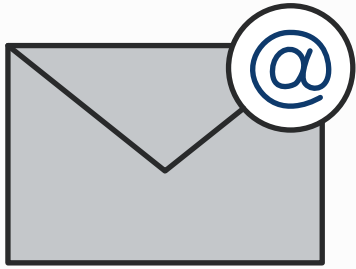


Every year we will make a report about how our plan is working.



We will also get feedback from the Aboriginal Advisory Group.

Contact information



Email

info@vec.vic.gov.au

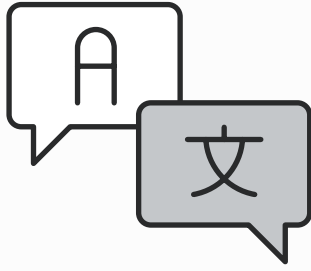


Call

131 832

We will answer the phone between 8:30 am and 5 pm local time. We are in Melbourne.

If you are outside Victoria, you can call us on 03 8620 1100.



Use the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)

Call 131 450 and ask to speak to Victorian Electoral Commission on 131 832.



Use the National Relay Service (NRS)

Visit the [National Relay Service](https://www.nationalrelayservice.org.au) website.

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