

## **ICV Islamophobia Position Statement Endorsements**

### **VMC – Chair, Viv Nguyen**

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#### ***Racism is unacceptable***

*The Victorian Multicultural Commission unequivocally condemns all forms of racism, vilification or discrimination directed at someone because of their colour, ethnicity, faith or national origin. Racism hurts our whole society and we must do better in opposing it.*

*We have made a commitment to taking a leadership role in addressing racism in Victoria, but we know we can't do it alone. Addressing racism will take a collective effort from all sectors, including all communities and faiths.*

*The Islamic Council of Victoria has been working across all areas of our society to ensure members of the Muslim faith are able to fully participate in Victorian life, including being able to practice their faith without fear.*

*Your report on islamophobia is an important piece of work that highlights the need for systemic change and calls on decision makers for urgent action. The report also serves to raise awareness and deepen understanding of the pain and trauma experienced by Muslim Victorians who are subjected to racism.*

*Victoria is a proud multicultural state that benefits so much from our cultural and religious diversity. We must continue to work together to strengthen our social cohesion and address racism.*

*On behalf of the Victorian Multicultural Commission, I thank you for your ongoing commitment and contribution to the public discourse on combating racism.*

### **AHRC – Race Commissioner, Chin Tan**

*"I applaud and welcome ICV's development of its Islamophobia Position Statement. Islamophobia is a pressing challenge for Muslim communities and for all Australians. ICV's Islamophobia Position Statement represents an important starting point for*

*discussions around this challenge and will make a key contribution in our collective mission to combat Islamophobia."*

*Thank you ICV. This is not only a document for Victoria but for all Australia. We will study it carefully and it will comprise an important contribution to our approach to Islamophobia in Australia.*

**VEOHRC – Director, Kristen Hilton**

*The statement is comprehensive, very important and so timely. We are very appreciative of the relationship we have with you and look forward to our ongoing work.*

**IRA - Director, Derya Iner**

*"Congratulations on ICV's position statement. It provides a comprehensive understanding of Islamophobia and what can be done to cope with it in AU. Very well done."*

**Federal Greens – Leader, Adam Bandt**

*As the leader of the Australian Greens, I am proud to support the Islamic Council of Victoria's Islamophobia Position Statement.*

*I recognise that Islamophobia is anti-Muslim racism and that it has become a real threat to the peace and prosperity of our diverse and vibrant Australian community.*

*I acknowledge the experiences of anti-Muslim discrimination, marginalisation, harassment, vilification and violence, which over the past two decades has led to numerous Islamophobic hate crimes against Australian Muslims and resulted in the horrific and shocking massacre of over fifty worshippers in Christchurch New Zealand in 2019, by a right-wing extremist.*

*The Greens have long stood with the Australian Muslim community in its fight against Islamophobia. We know that it is vital that we end the vilification of the Muslim community and work with the ICV to help to prevent Islamophobia.*



ISLAMIC COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

*I encourage all Australian public and private institutions to recognise that Islamophobia is a serious threat to our society and to work towards implementing concrete measures to address Islamophobia, such as the ones recommended in the ICV's Islamophobia Position statement.*

*I commend and thank the ICV, the many academics and the wider Australian Muslim community for producing such a crucial document. The Greens will always stand with you in combating Islamophobia in every sphere of our society.*