

AHHF welcomes re-elected Albanese Government's commitment to closing the gap through self-determined housing solutions.

5th **May 2025** – The Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Forum (AHHF) congratulates Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and the Labor Party on forming government following the Federal Election.

We welcome the opportunity to partner with the Albanese Government to increase housing supply for Aboriginal Victorians, including through proportional and equitable implementation of the Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF) for Aboriginal communities. We also look forward to partnering with the incoming Minister for Housing and Homelessness, to ensure that national housing policy and investments deliver lasting and transformative outcomes for Aboriginal communities in Victoria and throughout Australia.

Aboriginal people continue to be over-represented nation-wide in experiences of homelessness and housing insecurity, whilst being locked out of home ownership generationally. The next three years present an opportunity to move the dial and realise a future where every Aboriginal person has a home, but only if Aboriginal communities are directly involved in its delivery.

Chair of the AHHF, Darren Smith shares, "We congratulate the Albanese Government on their re-election and welcome the opportunity to partner with them to ensure Aboriginal voices and solutions are embedded in all areas of housing policy."

"This is a chance to do things differently, shifting away from short-term fixes and invest in the structural change needed to close the gap for our people."

"This includes the development of an Aboriginal-specific National Housing and Homelessness Plan, and a commitment to reducing experiences of homelessness through an Aboriginal Homelessness Target."

"We are also heartened by the Prime Minister's sentiments this weekend, referencing his own personal experience growing up in public housing, stressing the critical importance of safe, stable housing as a pathway to better lives and stronger communities, and the urgent need to build supply."

"We welcome the Prime Minister's commitment to supporting the interests of Aboriginal Australians as the traditional custodians of our lands and the oldest living culture in the world."

The AHHF remains committed to working with the Albanese Government to future-proof affordable and self-determined housing solutions for Aboriginal Victorians.

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About the Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Forum (AHHF) – <u>The Victorian Aboriginal Housing</u> and <u>Homelessness Forum (AHHF)</u> is a first of its kind, self-determined voice for Aboriginal housing and homelessness. The AHHF is a consortium of over 40 Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations

(ACCOs), Traditional Owner (TOs) groups and Aboriginal Trusts, who are delivering, or are interested in delivering, housing and homelessness services across Victoria.

The AHHF provides a dedicated space to engage in culturally safe planning, advocacy and action to progress the strategic objectives of *Mana-na woorn-tyeen maar-takoort: Every Aboriginal Person has a Home*, the Victoria Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Framework.

The AHHF works in partnership and collaboration with Homes Victoria, the Department of Transport and Planning, the Department of Treasury and Finance, and the Department of Premier and Cabinet to build the capacity and capability of an Aboriginal housing and homelessness system, and to ensure that every Aboriginal person has a home.

Mana-na woorn-tyeen maar-takoort is the self-determined framework for Aboriginal housing and homelessness reform in Victoria. The Framework was developed by community, for community in 2020, to reflect the objectives and priorities of the Victorian Aboriginal community, and respond to community needs across the housing and homelessness systems over the next 20 years.