

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP
Minister for Jobs and Industry
Minister for Treaty and First Peoples
Minister for Women



Thursday, 31 October 2024

ABORIGINAL HONOUR ROLL NOMINATIONS OPEN

The Allan Labor Government is calling for nominations for outstanding Aboriginal Victorians to be recognised on the Aboriginal Honour Roll.

Nominations are now open for the Victorian Aboriginal Honour Roll, which celebrates Aboriginal Victorians whose achievements have created a better future for all Victorians.

Since it was established in 2011, the Honour Roll has recognised 150 inspiring First Nations people for their outstanding work in a wide range of fields including health, education, justice, sport, the arts, community leadership and military service.

Past inductees include one of Australia's first international cricket stars, as well as tireless community advocates, and trailblazers who are leading the path towards Truth and Treaty in Victoria today.

Uncle Patrick Farrant Snr was inducted in 2023 for his work in Shepparton, establishing a sobering up centre and night patrol in response to findings from the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. He passionately worked for better outcomes for Aboriginal communities in Shepparton and beyond.

Dr Lois Peeler AM has been recognised for her advocacy to improve conditions for Aboriginal people, including the opening of Australia's first Aboriginal school in Frankston in 1983 and the establishment of Lotjpadhan – a restorative justice project for young Aboriginal people.

Aunty Linda Bamblett was recognised in 2023 for her advocacy, in particular for her leadership of Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Ltd. She is also a founding member of Yappera Children's Service and played a pivotal role in the Aboriginal Justice Agreement.

The new inductees will have their achievements added to the Honour Roll, which is on permanent display in the Victorian Parliament.

Nominations for the Honour Roll are now open and will close at 11:59pm on Friday, 13 December. Find out more by visiting firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/VAHR.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Treaty and First Peoples Natalie Hutchins:

"Every year we have the opportunity to hear and recognise the Aboriginal people in Victoria who are making immense contributions to our state, in fields as diverse as education, health, justice and sport."

"This is your chance to nominate an Aboriginal community member that you know is making a difference, and recognise them for their work in making Victoria a better, fairer and stronger place."