

The Hon Natalie Suleyman ME Minister for Veterans Minister for Small Business Minister for Youth



Monday, 18 November 2024

FUNDING TO SUPPORT AND COMMEMORATE OUR VETERANS

Minister for Veterans Natalie Suleyman today announced that the Allan Labor Government is investing more to support and honour our veterans by opening applications for two new rounds of the Veterans Capital Works and Restoring Community War Memorials and Avenues of Honours 2024-25 grant programs:

Veterans Capital Works 2024-25 grants will provide between \$5,000 and \$50,000 to support projects that build or improve buildings and facilities for organisations that deliver services to veterans, their families and communities.

Funded projects may include the upgrade, development or improvement of facility spaces, accessibility, sustainability or other aspects of venues.

Previous recipients include the Australian Catholic University which received \$48,000 to develop a dedicated Melbourne Veterans Students and Families Hub – a Victorian first that provides resources and support for veterans and their families pursuing higher education.

Restoring Community War Memorials and Avenues of Honour 2024-25 grants provide up to \$30,000 to restore or change war memorials, honour rolls and avenues of honour, to reflect their original condition or better reflect veteran service in the community.

The program supports local war memorials that commemorate Victorians who served in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

Last year, Ballan RSL Sub-Branch received more than \$29,000 to preserve and replace trees at the Barrys Reef WW1 Avenue of Honour site, giving new life to the memorial planted over 100 years ago.

Applications for grants in both programs are open until 3 February 2025.

For more information about Veterans Capital Works grants or to apply, visit: <u>vic.gov.au/veterans-capital-works-grant-program</u>.

To learn more about Restoring Community War Memorials and Avenues of Honour grants or apply, visit: vic.gov.au/restoring-community-war-memorials-and-avenues-honour.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Veterans Natalie Suleyman

"Our investment in accessible, safe and improved facilities for organisations will directly help veterans and veteran communities across the state."

"These grants will ensure the service and sacrifice of veterans are honoured with well-maintained memorials and spaces that reflect their legacy in local communities."