

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP
Minister for Mental Health
Minister for Ageing
Minister for Multicultural Affairs



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LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS TAKE OVER BOX HILL

The Allan Labor Government is proud to support Lunar New Year celebrations across Victoria and is encouraging all Victorians to get involved in a local Lunar New Year festival.

Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ingrid Stitt and Member for Box Hill Paul Hamer joined the local community in Box Hill at their annual Lunar New Year Festival – which attracts thousands of Victorians each year.

Hosted by Asian Business Association of Whitehorse Incorporated (ABAW), the Labor Government has invested \$400,000 over four years to ensure this important Lunar New Year event continues, stronger than ever – delivering on a key 2022 election commitment.

The Box Hill Lunar New Year festival will feature dazzling lion dances, live entertainment, traditional performances, market stalls and delicious street food, creating a welcoming atmosphere with fun for all ages and the perfect opportunity to celebrate the rich traditions, heritage, and good fortune of the Year of the Snake.

Lunar New Year is an important and vibrant cultural occasion, marking the beginning of the new year according to the Lunar calendar.

Each community brings its unique customs and practices to Lunar New Year celebrations. 2025 is the Year of the Wood Snake, which symbolises growth, wisdom and creativity.

Victoria's multiculturalism makes our state more vibrant, and festivals like Lunar New Year are a fantastic opportunity to preserve ancient traditions and celebrate of our diversity.

Since 2014, the Labor Government has invested more than \$41 million to deliver close to 10,000 multicultural festivals and events across the state.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ingrid Stitt

"The Labor Government is proud to support Lunar New Year festivals across our state, it is an incredibly special time for many Victorians and a spectacular showcase of our state's cultural diversity."

"Lunar New Year is a time to celebrate Victoria's rich multicultural community, embrace diversity and strengthen connections through shared traditions and new beginnings."

Quote attributable to Member for Box Hill Paul Hamer

"This Lunar New Year festival showcases the vibrant cultures of Box Hill and is an opportunity for Victorians to experience the diverse celebrations and traditions of the communities that make up our state."