

Media Release

The Hon Harriet Shing MP
Minister for Housing
Minister for Water
Minister for Equality



Sunday, 11 February 2024

SUPPORTING LGBTIQ+ INCLUSION AT VICTORIA'S PRIDE

Melbourne's iconic Smith and Gertrude streets have come alive again today for a one-day Street Party in celebration of Victoria's LGBTIQ+ communities with support from the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Equality Harriet Shing today joined in festivities at the Victoria's Pride Street Party in Collingwood and welcomed the show of support for the state's diverse rainbow community.

Victoria's Pride Street Party is an annual, free and inclusive one-day event with multiple music stages, community and food stalls and a dizzying array of immersive activities including comedy, circus, drag and art installations.

Almost 50,000 people are expected to visit the street party event, which coincides with the final day of the Midsumma Festival calendar for 2024.

Victoria's Pride Regional Activation Program 2023/24 featured 13 different arts and culture projects at venues throughout regional and rural Victoria, delivered by Midsumma.

Almost 100,000 people across Victoria participated in Midsumma and Victoria's Pride celebrations last year and it is hoped that number is exceeded this year.

The Labor Government invested \$6.8 million in the *Victorian Budget 2022/23* in support of Victoria's Pride events over four years.

Through its landmark 10-year plan for LGBTIQ+ equality, *Pride in our future*, the Labor Government is working to create a Victoria where everyone feels safe, is healthy, has equal human rights and can live wholly and freely.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Equality Harriet Shing

"Victoria's Pride is a wonderful opportunity for us all to come together to celebrate pride, identity and visibility."

"Events like this are so important for inclusion, respect, and diversity, and I'm delighted to join thousands of people in our iconic Gertrude and Smith Streets."

Quote attributable to Midsumma CEO Karen Bryant

"Victoria's Pride is always such a fabulous celebration as our core Midsumma Festival dates draws to a close; a day full of fun and festivities, showcasing exceptional LGBTIQ+ artists, performers, musicians and local businesses."