

Media Release

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



Friday, 8 August 2025

MORE FUNDING TO SUPPORT CHINESE COMMUNITY CONNECTION

The Allan Labor Government is continuing to back Victoria's growing multicultural communities with dedicated funding for new community centres to support cultural connection, celebration and belonging.

Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ingrid Stitt today announced that expressions of interest are now open for Chinese community organisations in Melbourne's east to establish a new community centre in the region.

A grant of up to \$2.4 million is available for the centre, to support local organisations to deliver a culturally appropriate space where communities can gather, connect and celebrate their heritage.

Victoria is proudly home to almost 430,000 people of Chinese ancestry, who have made and continue to make a significant contribution to our state's history, identity, economic prosperity and cultural success.

The Government is also proud to support Lunar New Year celebrations across the state – including a \$400,000 investment over four years to help deliver Melbourne's iconic Chinatown festival, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors annually.

Victoria's diversity remains one of our greatest strengths, and the Labor Government continues to support multicultural communities through a range of targeted programs and initiatives that build social cohesion and promote inclusivity.

This announcement follows recent funding of more than \$2 million through the *Chinese Community Infrastructure Fund*, which is helping to deliver projects such as facility upgrades at the Bright Moon Buddhist Temple in Springvale South and lighting improvements at the Museum of Chinese Australian History.

Expressions of interest open on 6 August and close on 17 September 2025.

For more information on how to submit an expression of interest, visit: <https://www.vic.gov.au/community-centre-expressions-of-interest>.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ingrid Stitt

"Victoria's Chinese community has a proud history and continues to play an important role in shaping our future – we're supporting that legacy with safe, welcoming places to gather and celebrate."

"These centres are about connection, community and culture – helping ensure traditions are celebrated for generations to come."