

# Media Release

**The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP**  
Minister for Government Services  
Minister for Treaty and First Peoples  
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence  
Minister for Women



Wednesday, 3 September 2025

## OUTSTANDING VICTORIAN WOMEN RECOGNISED

Women fighting for workers' rights, health advocates and a trailblazing nun are among 24 women being inducted into the 2025 Victorian Honour Roll of Women supported by the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Women Natalie Hutchins announced the new inductees at a ceremony at the Arts Centre Melbourne last night.

The Honour Roll recognises outstanding Victorian women whose leadership and achievements make a lasting difference to the community. The late Hon Joan Kirner AC, Victoria's first female Premier, created the Honour Roll to formally acknowledge women for their achievements and to encourage others to follow in their footsteps.

This year's inductees include the Honourable Jennifer Coate AO who was the first President of the Children's Court in Victoria, first female State Coroner of Victoria and one of only two females on the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Family violence advocates are well represented including internationally recognised academic and Chair of Respect Victoria Professor Kate Fitz-Gibbon, whose research with victim-survivors was cited by the Australian Fair Work Commission as critical to the introduction of paid family and domestic violence leave legislation.

Workers' rights advocate Caterina Cinanni has been recognised for her work in empowering vulnerable migrant farm workers to speak out against exploitation, leading to improved visa laws for temporary migrants, the introduction of minimum hourly wages, overtime and penalties, as well as national legislation on modern slavery.

By shining a light on these women's remarkable achievements, the Labor Government is building a more gender equal Victoria.

More than 770 women have been inducted since the Victorian Honour Roll of Women began in 2001. The full list of inductees is available at [vic.gov.au/victorian-honour-roll-of-women-inductees](https://vic.gov.au/victorian-honour-roll-of-women-inductees).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Women Natalie Hutchins

*"The Honour Roll is proof that leadership takes many forms – from the classroom to the courtroom, from healthcare to community organising. It's hard to be what you can't see."*

*"Every one of these women has made Victoria a better, fairer place. They've changed lives, inspired others and strengthened our state in ways that will last for generations."*

## 2025 Victorian Honour Roll of Women Inductees

### Trailblazer

- Dr Angeline Achariya  
*Kingston*
- Jenifer Lee  
*Stonnington*
- Caterina Cinanni  
*Merri-bek*
- Mother Mary Gonzaga Barry  
*Ballarat*

### Change Agent

- Liz Dawes OAM  
*Bayside*
- Lisa Fitzpatrick AO  
*Moonee Valley*
- Dr Nancy Lewis  
*Stonnington*
- The Honourable Jennifer Coate AO  
*Darebin*
- Professor Kate Fitz-Gibbon  
*Yarra City*
- Elena Campbell  
*Bass Coast Shire*
- Jane Harrison  
*Ballarat*
- Professor Kelly-Anne Phillips  
*Bayside*
- Janine Mahoney  
*Boroondara*
- Anastasia Le  
*Maribyrnong*
- Dr Linny Kimly Phuong  
*Stonnington*
- Kerry Arabena  
*Macedon Ranges*
- The Honourable Candy Broad  
*Hepburn Shire*

### Local Champion

- Maureen Mohr  
*Melton*
- Ana Ruffat-Ruiz  
*Stonnington*
- Yvonne Hong  
*Kingston*
- Abiola Akinbiyi  
*Wyndham*
- Vicki Scott  
*Greater Shepparton*

### Emerging Leader

- Dr Catriona Vi Nguyen-Robertson  
*Maribyrnong*
- Lutfiye Kavci  
*Greater Shepparton*