

# Joint Statement

**Hon Jacinta Allan MP**  
Premier

**Ngarra Murray**  
Co-Chair of the  
First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria  
**Rueben Berg**  
Co-Chair of the  
First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria



Saturday, 13 December 2025

## VICTORIA'S TREATY: IT'S HERE

The commencement of Australia's first Treaty was marked today with a ceremonial signing and event at John Cain Arena.

Premier Jacinta Allan, Minister for Treaty and First Peoples Natalie Hutchins, and Co-Chairs of the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria Ngarra Murray and Rueben Berg attended the event marking the official start of Treaty.

Treaty is a pathway to acknowledging the past and making real, practical changes to achieve better outcomes for First Peoples in Victoria and close the gap.

A woomera and spear were brought together to symbolise the beginning of a new formal relationship between First Peoples and the Victorian Government.

The Premier, Minister and Co-Chairs placed ochre handprints on kangaroo skin to represent the Treaty, and the Treaty Authority declared the commencement in accordance with their rules.

The public event featured iconic Australian artists including Alice Skye, Baker Boy, Briggs, Uncle Kutcha Edwards, Deborah Cheetham, Missy Higgins, Paul Kelly and a special appearance by Yothu Yindi performing their anthem 'Treaty' at the end.

The commencement follows Royal Assent of the Statewide Treaty Bill on 13 November 2025, which establishes Gellung Warl as a permanent entity including the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria, a truth-telling arm and an independent accountability mechanism.

### Media contacts

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