

# Media Release

**The Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP**

Leader of the House

Minister for Health

Minister for Ambulance Services

Minister for Women



Tuesday, 27 January 2026

## NOMINATE AN EXCEPTIONAL VICTORIAN WOMAN NOW

The Allan Labor Government is recognising women who have made outstanding and lasting contributions to Victoria through the Victorian Honour Roll of Women.

Minister for Women Mary-Anne Thomas today opened nominations for the 2026 Victorian Honour Roll of Women, calling on Victorians to nominate someone inspirational to join the Roll.

Victorians are encouraged to nominate women from all walks of life, cultural backgrounds and age groups for the five categories – History Heroine, Local Champion, Change Agent, Emerging Leader and Trailblazer.

The Honour Roll celebrates their achievements across fields such as social justice, health, science, research, arts, environment, law, media and education.

Last year's 24 Honour Roll inductees included Professor Kelly-Anne Phillips, a powerful leader and advocate for women in medical research as the first woman to become a Professor of Oncology in Victoria. She has dedicated her career to advancing breast cancer research and improving women's health.

Family violence awareness advocates were also well represented including internationally recognised academic and Chair of Respect Victoria Professor Kate Fitz-Gibbon and advocate Lutfiye Kavci, an inspiring family violence survivor who turned her own horrific experience into creating positive change for others.

By celebrating women's achievements and recognising their contributions, the Labor Government is proud to play a vital role in increasing the representation of women by promoting them as key role models and leaders to build a more gender equal society and inspire the next generation.

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.

More than 770 women have been inducted since the Honour Roll of Women began in 2001.

Nominations open today and close on Friday, 20 March 2026. To find out more and nominate yourself or someone you know, visit [vic.gov.au/honour-roll-women](https://vic.gov.au/honour-roll-women).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Women Mary-Anne Thomas

*"Women right across Victoria are changing lives every day – whether it is in the research lab, in the legal system or advocating for change in a range of fields, this a chance to highlight incredible women from all walks of life."*

*"If you know a history heroine, emerging leader, local champion, trailblazer or change agent who deserves to be recognised among these remarkable women, nominate them now."*