



Don Harwin
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Natalie Ward
Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

MEDIA RELEASE

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INDIGENOUS VETERANS COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

Today we commemorate the Indigenous Veterans who have made, and continue to make, valuable contributions to our Nation.

The Indigenous Veterans Commemoration Ceremony is held at the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park. Hosted by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans Services Association it is proudly supported by the Returned Services League of Australia and the NSW Office of Veterans Affairs.

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Don Harwin said National Reconciliation Week highlights the importance of our Aboriginal history through culture, connecting, listening and learning.

“I recognise the service and sacrifice of many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service men and women and the sacrifices of their families.” Mr Harwin said.

“It was a privilege to meet Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander veterans, their families and the committed members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans Services Association who hosted the event.

“This important event is held annually during Reconciliation Week. Unfortunately, last year’s ceremony was cancelled due to COVID-19, making this year’s ceremony a more powerful and moving experience.”

Minister for Veterans Natalie Ward said it is important to highlight the diversity of the veteran community.

“It’s especially powerful to honour Indigenous veterans during National Reconciliation Week, a time for all Australians to learn about Aboriginal culture, history and achievements,” Mrs Ward said.

RSL President Ray James said they are pleased this annual commemoration continues to gather momentum.

“Now in its 15th year, the Indigenous Veterans Commemoration Service continues to unite Australians in remembering and honouring the service and sacrifice of Indigenous veterans,” Mr James said.

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