



**OUR SHARED FUTURE**

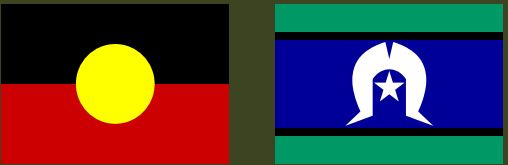
# **INFORMATION PACK**



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**Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pay our respect to First Peoples, their culture, and their Elders past and present.





# INTRODUCTION

## About Victoria's path to Treaty

Victoria is a proud, multicultural state. We value diversity. We value 60,000 years of living First Peoples' culture.

Treaty is an opportunity for all of us to come to grips with the history we share – and create a better and fairer future together.

Through Treaty, Victorian communities will continue to come together, understand our history and create a fairer Victoria.

Treaty is about Aboriginal communities coming up with and delivering practical solutions to matters that are important for their culture, wellbeing and livelihoods.

Treaty gives us a pathway to change what isn't working and give First Peoples a say on the policies that impact First Peoples' lives.

This is about more than righting wrongs. It's about embracing a shared understanding that lets us walk forward together, as Victorians.





# HOW TO USE THIS INFORMATION PACK

The information in this pack has been developed for you to learn about why Victoria is on the path to Treaty, Treaty foundations, truth-telling, Treaty negotiations, what Treaty will deliver, and how you can get involved.

- You can use information and resources from this pack in your own communications or templates as required.
- This information has been developed by the Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet on behalf of the Victorian Government.
- The information in this pack is accurate as of **September 2025**.





# VICTORIA'S NEGOTIATED TREATY & STATEWIDE TREATY BILL 2025

The State of Victoria and the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria have negotiated a Statewide Treaty. The Statewide Treaty Bill 2025 will give effect to this Treaty.

## The path to Treaty

- For too long, laws and policies have been made about First Peoples - without First Peoples.
- Australia's first formal truth-telling process, the Yoorrook Justice Commission, heard evidence of the historical and ongoing injustices experienced by First Peoples in Victoria.
- The work of the Commission helps us understand our history from the perspective of Aboriginal people, how it impacts on their present, and how Treaty can be the pathway to practical changes and solutions.
- In Victoria, we have been on the path to Treaty for nearly a decade. We have laid a strong foundation.
- Treaty is key to closing the gap so that all Victorians have the same opportunities.
- When First Peoples lead the way to design policies and solutions, we get better outcomes.

## Establishing Gellung Warl

The Statewide Treaty Bill 2025 (the Bill) will establish a new entity Gellung Warl (*Gullung-Warl*, from Gunaikurnai language) which is evolved from Victoria's successful First Peoples' Assembly, with three main parts:

- **First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria**, consisting of democratically elected members, to inform Parliament and the Victorian Government on matters that affect First Peoples, and make decisions about issues that impact First Peoples.
- **Nginma Ngainga Wara** (*Ng-in-ma Ng-eye-nga Wa-ra*, a Wadi Wadi word), to implement the commitment under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap to establish an independent accountability mechanism and improve outcomes.
- **Nyerna Yoorrook Telkuna** (*Nyern- ah Yoo -rrook Terl-kun-ah*, a Wamba Wemba word), to establish truth-telling in local communities about our history, supporting ongoing education, healing and reconciliation.

- Gellung Warl will operate as an ongoing democratic, representative and deliberative body for First Peoples in Victoria. It will lead the renewed relationship with the State created by Treaty. Working with the State, it will use its functions and powers to action Statewide Treaty reforms – the practical outcomes set out in the Statewide Treaty.
- While operating independently from government, Gellung Warl is subject to Parliamentary sovereignty. The operations of Gellung Warl will not impact the Parliament's ability to make laws, and it will not impact the Victorian Government's ability to govern for all Victorians.
- Gellung Warl will have no powers to veto policy or legislation. Gellung Warl will be subject to the same oversight bodies as other independent agencies including VAGO, IBAC and the Ombudsman.



# VICTORIA'S NEGOTIATED TREATY & STATEWIDE TREATY BILL 2025

## Decision-making on First Peoples' matters

The Bill empowers Gellung Warl's elected Assembly to make rules, guidelines and standards about issues that directly affect First Peoples. These include:

- Making rules regarding the 'acceptance by community' aspect of Confirmation of Aboriginality.
- Appointing the existing First Peoples' representatives to the Heritage Council and Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council.
- Making guidelines for the trading and sharing of First Peoples' existing water entitlements with other First Peoples.
- Making guidelines regarding First Peoples' cultural safety, including for specific activities, industries or sectors.
- Making its own internal rules, including regarding structure, governance, operations.

Guidelines made are non-binding, optional, and must not be contrary to existing State or Commonwealth legislation.

Gellung Warl will action important reforms set out in Treaty. These reforms include to:

- Use the Yoorrook Justice Commission's Official Public Record as a curriculum resource to support the implementation of truth-telling in schools.
- Participate in place-naming of specific geographic features including waterways and National and State parks to increase opportunities for the use of traditional or language place names.
- Establish a First Peoples Infrastructure Fund to re-furbish or build new Aboriginal community infrastructure.
- Deliver Aboriginal events and awards, such as NAIDOC week events and the Victorian Aboriginal Honour Roll.



# VIDEOS

These videos chart Victoria's path to Treaty, explaining how we got here, why we decided to negotiate a Treaty, and the benefits Treaty will have for all Victorians.

New videos will be released between 9 September and 20 September.

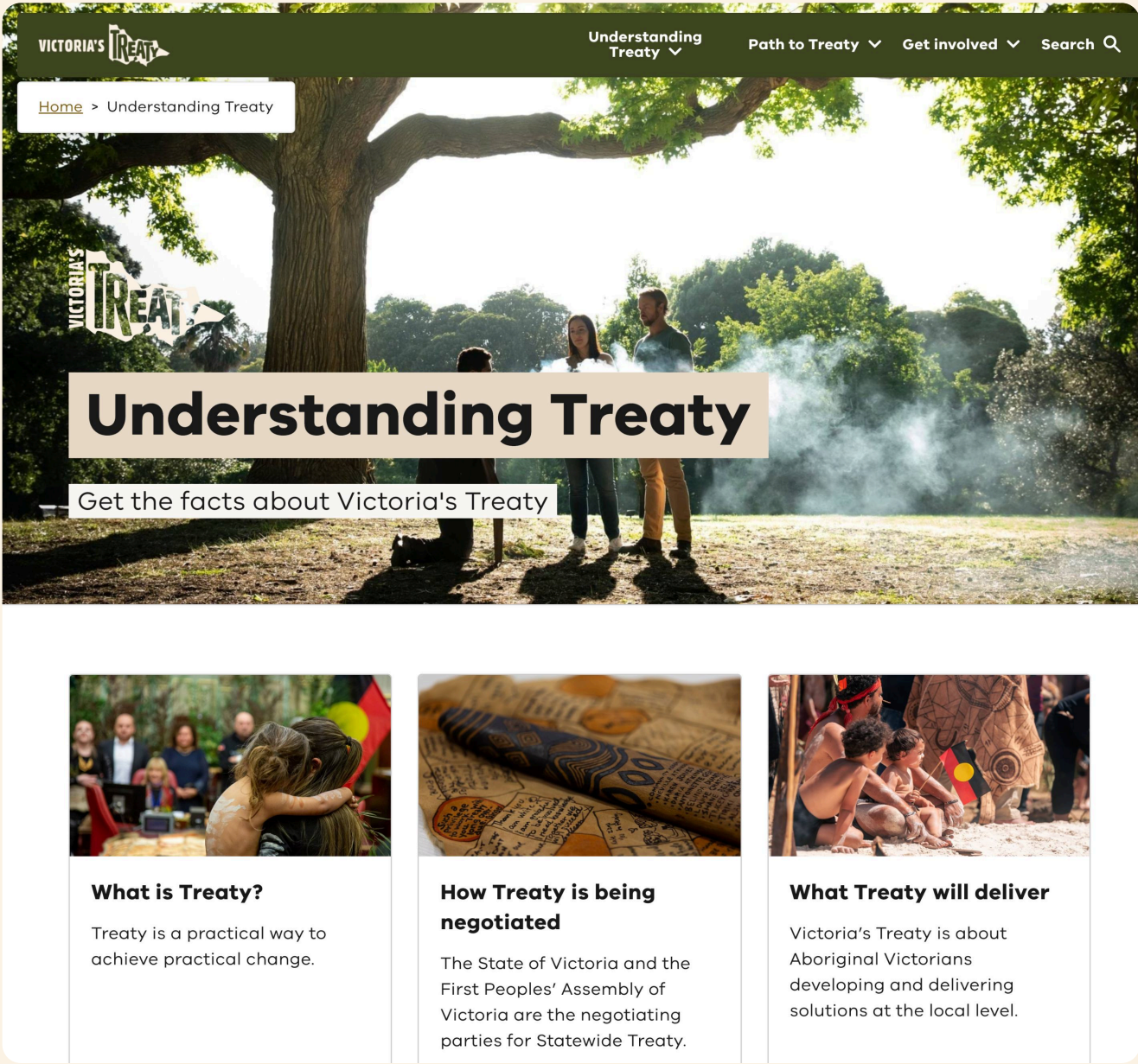
[Download videos here](#) 





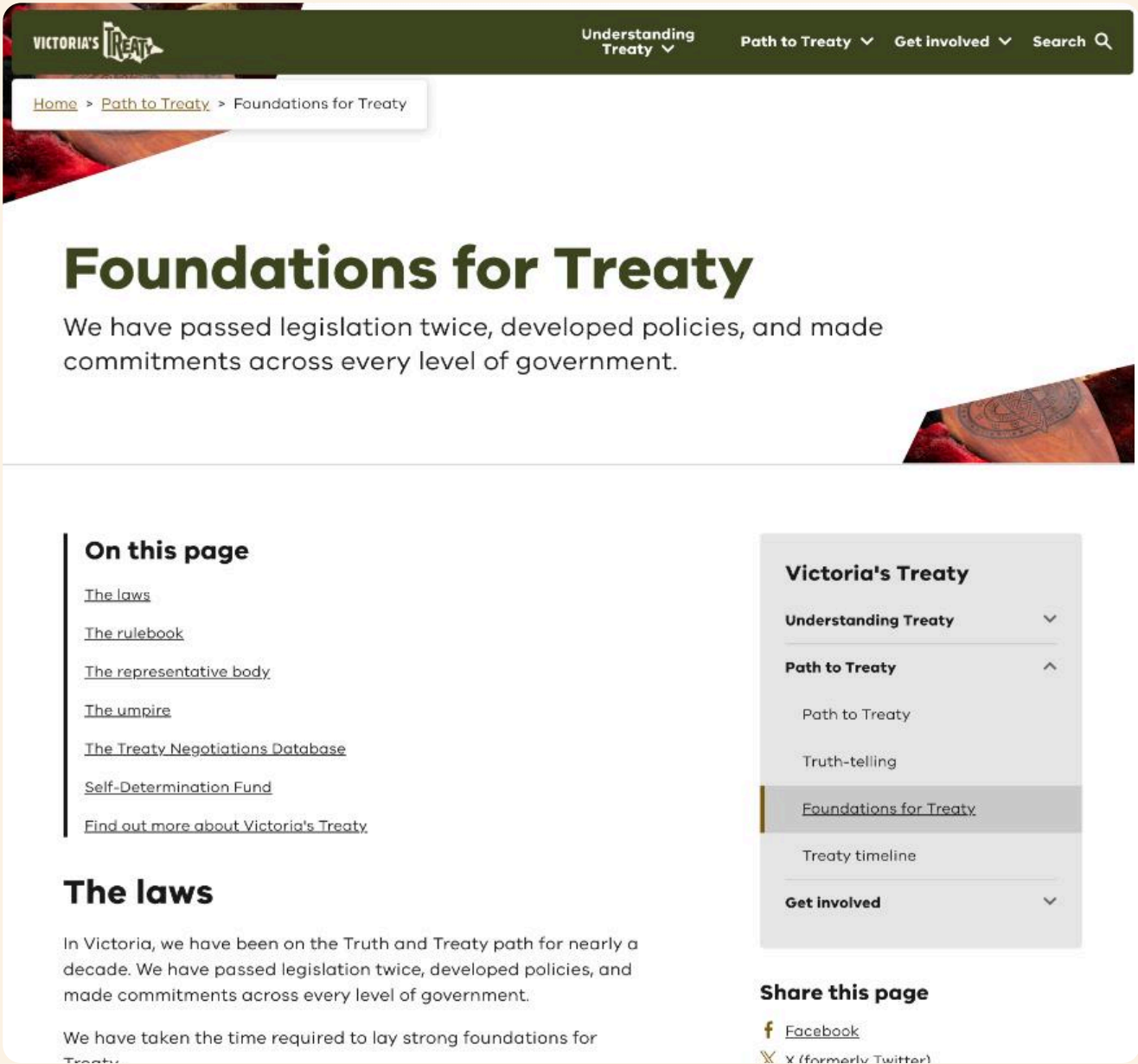
# VICTORIA'S TREATY WEBSITE

Visit Victoria’s Treaty website to find out more about Treaty.



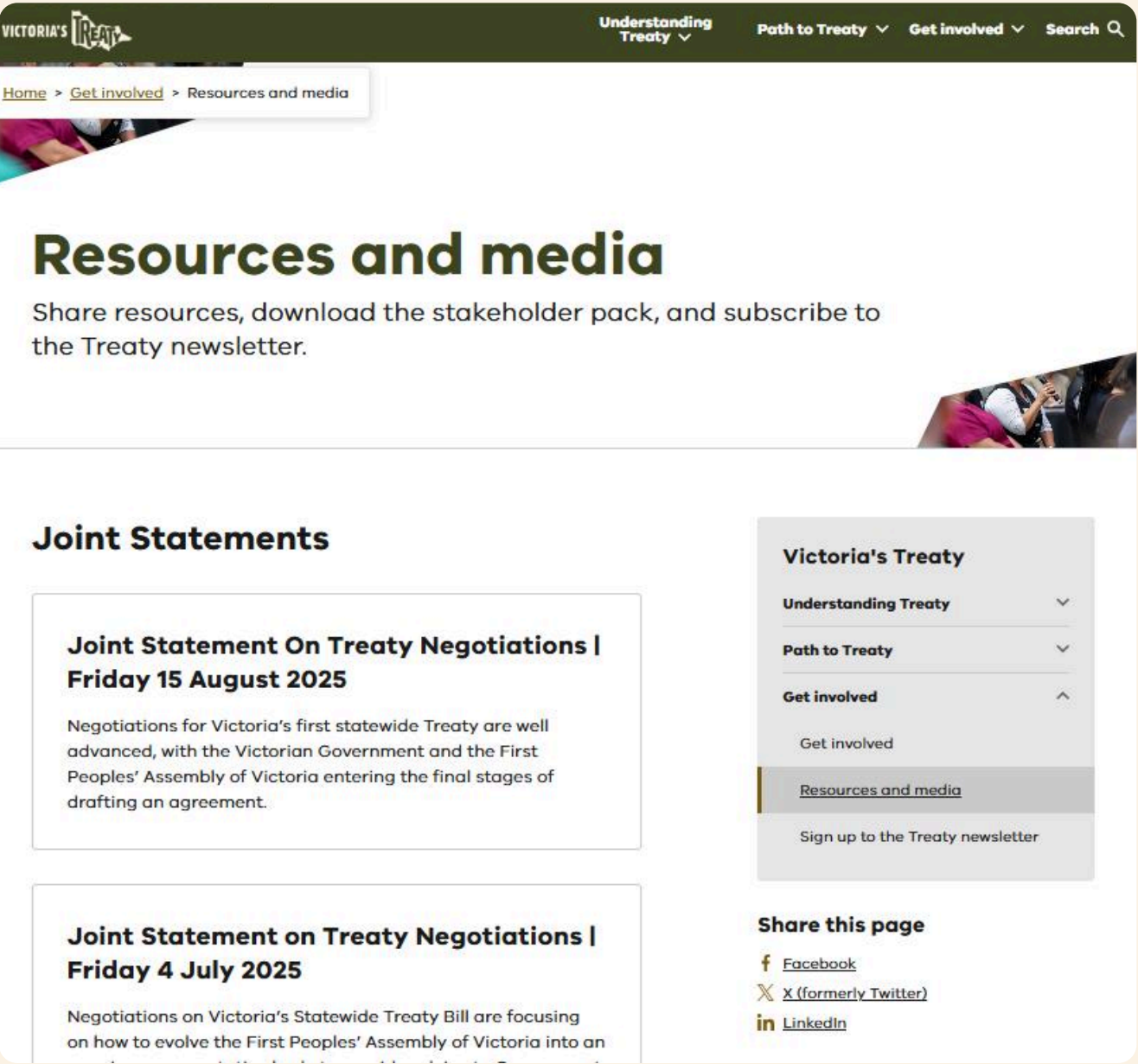
**Understanding Treaty:** Get the facts about Victoria’s Treaty

[Understanding Treaty online](#) →



**Foundations for Treaty:** We have passed legislation twice and made commitments across every level of government.

[Foundations for Treaty online](#) →



**Resources and media:** Share resources, download the information pack, watch videos, and subscribe to the Treaty newsletter.

[Resources and media](#) →

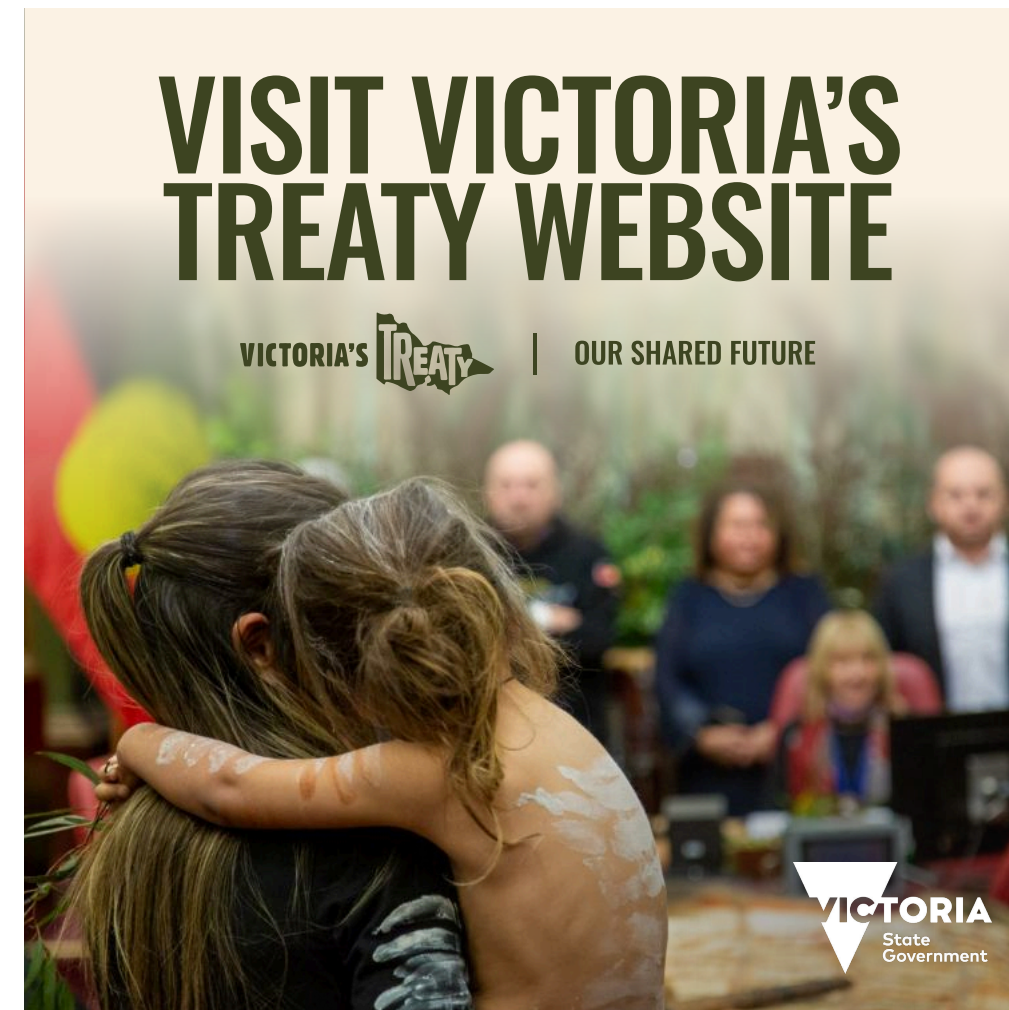


# SOCIAL MEDIA

Share social media resources to keep your network informed. More social tiles can be accessed in the link below.

[Social media resources online](#) →

We recommend that you monitor your social media channels and apply best practice moderation when sharing content.



## Visit Victoria's Treaty website

Treaty is a practical way to achieve practical change - and create a stronger, fairer Victoria - for all of us.

Visit Victoria's Treaty website to find out more: [treatyvictoria.vic.gov.au](https://www.treatyvictoria.vic.gov.au)



## Sign up for the Treaty newsletter

Sign up to Victoria's Treaty newsletter to find out the latest information about the first Treaty in Australia.

Subscribe here: <https://www.treatyvictoria.vic.gov.au/subscribe-treaty-victoria-newsletter>



## Victoria's negotiated Treaty is here

The Victorian Government has worked towards a Treaty for a decade. Now Victoria's negotiated Treaty is here.

Find out more: <https://www.treatyvictoria.vic.gov.au/path-treaty>



# NEWSLETTER TEMPLATE

This template contains information about Victoria's negotiated Treaty. You can use it to let you network know about Victoria's negotiated Treaty.



**Subject:** Learn more about Victoria's historic Treaty

This is an historic occasion.

For the first time in Australia's history, a Treaty has been negotiated with First Peoples.

The Statewide Treaty Bill 2025 has been introduced into the Victorian Parliament. This Bill will give effect to this Treaty.

Here in Victoria, the Government has been on the path to Treaty for nearly a decade. A strong foundation has been laid.

For too long, laws and policies have been made about First Peoples – without First Peoples.

Treaty is key to closing the gap so that all Victorians have the same opportunities.

When First Peoples lead the way to design policies and solutions, we get better outcomes.

For more information, visit [www.treatyvictoria.vic.gov.au](http://www.treatyvictoria.vic.gov.au)



# HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Consider how information about Victoria's Treaty can be incorporated into your organisation's communications.

**Learn more at:**

- [Treaty for Victoria](#)
- [First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria – The shared journey to Treaty](#)
- [Treaty Authority](#)
- [Yoorrook Justice Commission](#)
- Join the conversation at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/FirstPeoplesStateRelations/>

**Sign up to the Treaty newsletter** ✉

Stay informed. Share factual information within your networks.  
Share social media resources to keep your network informed.







# VICTORIA'S TREATY

Thank you for your support.

Please contact us if you have any questions  
or would like to provide feedback.

**Email:** [engage@dpc.vic.gov.au](mailto:engage@dpc.vic.gov.au)