



## Council reminds us of “Sorry Day”.

The Ethnic Communities Council of WA reminds us all that today May 26th is National Sorry Day. It is a day of significance to us as we remember and apologise for all of the injustices that have been perpetrated against the First Nations People in Australia.

As Luke Pearson tweeted this morning: “The first Sorry Day was held in 1998, on the anniversary of the “Bringing Them Home” report being tabled in Federal parliament. Sorry Day isn’t just a day of remembrance, it’s a call to action to implement the 54 recommendations from the report... saying sorry wasn’t the only recommendation”

“It is often forgotten that there were 54 recommendations made in that report. Whilst we have gone to the extent of saying Sorry to the Indigenous people, a look at the other recommendations in the report shows that we have a very long way to go to come to any really process of reconciliation that we often trumpet about. The recommendations are contained in this report: <https://bth.humanrights.gov.au/the-report/report-recommendations>” said Suresh Rajan, President of the Council.

“We urge our CaLD communities to access this report and review these recommendations therein. Let us also then urge our parliamentarians at the State and Federal levels to present their achievements against these basic human rights. These human rights are often things that we take for granted and continue to deny the First Nations People” added Suresh Rajan.

Most of the CaLD communities that have come to this country have not been exposed to or learnt the true history of one of the oldest living civilisations on Earth. Multiculturalism is predicated on the celebration of all the different cultures that make up Modern Australia. The most significant of those cultures is the oldest of them, that of the Indigenous people resident here.

“We must do all we can to ensure that the recommendations of the report mentioned above are implemented. This will take us some way to redressing the wrongs that have been perpetrated over 200 years to our sisters and brothers from the Indigenous communities. There is so much to be done to address the much shorter life expectancy of Aboriginal People. In a rich first world nation such as we are in Australia, the treatment of Aboriginal People has been a blight on our history that is desperately overdue for change” said Suresh Rajan.

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