



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 15 May 2015

Royal Commission visits eastern Victoria

The Royal Commission into Family Violence is nearing the conclusion of its intensive community consultations, hearing from people affected by family violence and the people who provide assistance and support to them.

So far there have been more than 850 registrations made for over 35 community consultations being held across Victoria between 21 April and 22 May 2015.

This week's sessions were held in Werribee, Sale, Traralgon and Morwell. The Commission also met with women from CALD backgrounds, representatives from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and women in custody.

Some of the key themes raised include:

- how to break the cycle of intergenerational family violence
- the importance of culturally appropriate responses and services in Aboriginal communities
- the way in which family violence is dealt with by different jurisdictions e.g. the Federal Circuit Court and different Magistrate's Court locations
- the increase in family violence at times of natural disaster
- access to and flexibility of services in regional and remote areas.

Next week the Royal Commission will hold sessions in north eastern Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne. For safety reasons, the exact details of the dates and locations of these consultations will be kept confidential and only disclosed to registered participants.

The Commission encourages those who have been affected by family violence, and those who work with them, to inquire about and register for next week's sessions by calling 1800 365 100. Anyone requiring an interpreter should call 9321 5499.

The Royal Commission will accept written submissions up to Friday, 29 May 2015. Anyone requiring assistance can call the Royal Commission on 1800 365 100 or send an email to enquiries@rcfv.com.au.

Public hearings are expected to start on Monday, 13 July 2015 on level 11, 222 Exhibition Street, Melbourne. They will also be streamed live and available from www.rcfv.com.au.

Quote attributed to Commissioner Neave:

'We have heard very helpful suggestions about ways to improve the response to family violence through our community consultation sessions.'

'We continue to encourage victims, survivors and family violence workers to send in their written submissions by Friday, 29 May.'

For more information call 1800 365 100 or visit www.rcfv.com.au.

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