

The following statement was first committed to in 1997, and recommitted to in 2012, with the launch of Council's first Reconciliation Action Plan.

Councillors confirm that:

*The Council of the City of Port Phillip acknowledges that the Yalukut Weelam clan of the Boon Wurrung language group are the first people of this land and have survived European settlement for more than two centuries.*

*The City of Port Phillip values its diverse and multicultural community and encourages tolerance and respect for all.*

*The arrival of Europeans brought massive change to the Australian continent and to its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For its part, the City of Port Phillip acknowledges and grieves for the loss by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of their land, their children, their health and their lives.*

*We acknowledge the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to live according to their own values and customs and we commit ourselves to respecting Aboriginal sacred sites and significant places.*

*The Council recognises the valuable contribution to the Port Phillip region made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and looks forward to a future of mutual respect and harmony.*

*The Council supports the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia working together for the development of a formal instrument of reconciliation.*