

THE VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL HERITAGE COUNCIL CALLS FOR ALL VICTORIANS TO AFFIRM THAT:

Indigenous Peoples are equal to all other peoples, while recognising the right of all peoples to be different, to consider themselves different, and to be respected as such

WE ASK THAT EACH OF US RECOGNISE IN OURSELVES, OUR WORKPLACES AND OUR INSTITUTIONS, THAT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

Self-determination

Self-government in matters relating to their internal affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions

Not be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of their Culture

Not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories

Practise and revitalise their Cultural Traditions and Customs

Manifest, practise, develop and teach their spiritual and religious Traditions, Customs and Ceremonies

Maintain, protect, and have access in privacy to their religious and cultural Sites

The use and control of their Ceremonial Objects

The repatriation of their Ancestral Human Remains

Revitalise, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures

Designate and retain their own names for communities, places and person

Participate in decision-making through representatives chosen by themselves, in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to their own decision-making institutions

Maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources

Maintain, control, protect and develop their Cultural Heritage, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions

The manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts



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