



9. NOTICES OF MOTION

I, Councillor Ogy Simic, give notice that I intend to move the Motion outlined below at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 04 October 2017:

That Council:-

1. Recognises the recent resolutions on marking Australia Day by Yarra City Council, Darebin City Council and Moreland City Council and congratulates them on their courage and leadership.
2. Acknowledges that for many January 26 marks the beginning of the British invasion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lands and oppression of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
3. Acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people never ceded sovereignty of their lands and have continuously cared for their country for over 60,000 years as the world's oldest living culture.
4. Review its activities on January 26 by;
 - a. commencing a formal consultation to seek advice from elders of the Yalukut Weelam clan of the Boon Wurrung, other local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and local indigenous organisations as to the best date to celebrate Australia Day, and how this might be best done to be inclusive of all Australians;
 - b. seeking feedback, through that consultation process, on the purpose and content of Council events and activities on January 26;
 - c. bringing a report to Council on the results of this consultation with proposed next steps;
5. Notes that the current arrangements of Australia day will continue as in the past until after the consultation is completed and council has considered the report.

Supporting Information

There is current debate around the role and nature of marking Australia Day on January 26 and what official events local governments should hold on that date.

The first Day of Mourning was held on January 26, 1938, being the 150th anniversary of the British invasion. The Day was attended by indigenous Australians and non-indigenous supporters in protest of the national holiday and the 'callous treatment' of Aboriginal people and continues to be held annually.

This motion seeks to establish a formal and transparent consultation process with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to build understanding of their view regarding this matter and options Port Phillip Council should consider moving forward.

The City of Port Phillip looks forward to continuing its strong and valued relationship with the local Boon Wurrung community, elders of the Yalukut Weelam clan and local indigenous organisations.