

MEDIA RELEASE

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CHRISTMAS IS THE SEASON FOR VICTORIANS TO BE JOLLY

Victoria's strong Christian community is preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus during this year's Christmas celebrations.

Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) Chairperson Chin Tan said the annual Christmas observance is embraced by many people of different faiths as an annual celebration of family and charity.

"Almost 60 per cent of Victorians identify with Christian faiths, and this is a very special time for them," Mr Tan said.

"Attending church services, sharing a special meal with family and friends, giving gifts, decorating homes and entire streets, and singing carols are Christmas traditions embraced by the vast majority of Victorians.

"On behalf of the VMC, I extend my warmest wishes to everyone during this festive season."

Mr Tan said it was also the season for reflection on the highs and lows of 2013 as people make preparations for the new year to begin.

"With 2014 fast approaching, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe year ahead, with good health and prosperity for all," he said.

"I hope that 2014 is a wonderful year for Victorians from all backgrounds and faiths."

Media enquiries:

Carol Nichols, VMC Communications and Events Manager
(03) 9651 0649 or carol.nichols@vmc.vic.gov.au