

MEDIA RELEASE

THURSDAY 8 AUGUST 2013

VICTORIANS CELEBRATE THE END OF RAMADAN

Victorian Muslims will today begin celebrations to acknowledge the conclusion of the holy month of Ramadan with feasts, worship and charity.

The celebration to conclude the Ramadan observance is known by different names around the world, including Eid al-Fitr, Idul Fitri, and Ramazan Bayrami, and involves a focus on charity and prayer, as well as feasts to break the Ramadan fast.

Chairperson of the Victorian Multicultural Commission Chin Tan said the month had provided opportunities for people from all cultures and faiths to come together.

“During the past 30 days of Ramadan I was warmly welcomed by the local Muslim community and honoured to attend more than a dozen Iftar meals and other events,” Mr Tan said.

“At Ramadan events across Victoria, local Muslim communities shared their customs and beliefs with others in the spirit of understanding, peace and harmony.

“I look forward to marking the end of Ramadan with the Eid al-Fitr celebrations at several festivals and events this weekend, and encourage everyone to get involved in the joyous celebrations,” he said.

The Melbourne Eid Festival will be held at the Melbourne Showgrounds on Saturday 10 August and Sunday 11 August 2013, and is co-hosted by the Islamic Council of Victoria. Local celebrations are also being held in Springvale, Dandenong and other locations around Victoria.

Victoria is home to about 153,000 people who follow an Islamic faith.

Media enquiries:

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