



GENDER
EQUITY
VICTORIA

Press Release

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Our Equal State – Shows value in working together

Gender Equity Victoria congratulates the Victorian Government on launching its much anticipated Our Equal State – Victoria’s gender equality strategy and action plan 2023-2027.

This strategy is evidence that the groundbreaking Gender Equality Act and gender-responsive budgeting are paying off and driving change.

Julie Kun, Chair of Gender Equity Victoria, said, ‘Gender Equity Victoria has been a powerful champion for gender-responsive budgeting; we are proud of its critical role in the strategy.’

This Equality Action Plan has been launched in an environment where there is an ongoing wave of horrific family violence and sexual assaults in Victoria and across the nation. Housing and financial stress also takes a particular toll on Victorian women, girls and gender-diverse people.

Ms Kun said, ‘For this strategy to be successful, the Government must ensure gender-appropriate employment services are available to women and that the reach of gender-responsive budgeting is extended and entrenched. This government must continue its groundbreaking work; this includes ensuring new and ongoing long-term funding of women’s health, housing, sexual assault and family violence response and prevention services.’

Ms Kun said, ‘With 23 of the 110 actions in the strategy requiring exploration and investigation, women and gender equity services, the union movement and grassroots community movements have a vital role in providing input into these explorations and investigations.’

Gender Equity Victoria congratulates the government for ensuring the plan reflects the additional barriers such as ageism, racism, homophobia, ableism, and transphobia create for women and gender-diverse people and the reality that we cannot achieve equality without equality for all.

We are also delighted to see ambitious, achievable targets for building gender equity within the public service sector, including more men utilising paid parental leave and halving the gender pay gap within five years.

‘We congratulate Geographic Names Victoria for their commitment to a target of 70% of new place names to commemorate women by 2027. To see grassroots community activism become government

policy is an accolade for the government. We are proud of Gender Equity Victoria's Put Her Name On It project and acknowledge its roots as a community-based feminist movement', said Ms Kun

'The Victorian government has consistently shown leadership in the gender equity space, and this strategy further guarantees a shift in the dial on engrained gender inequity. We look forward to working with the Victorian government to enact the Our Equal State strategy.' said Ms Kun.

–ENDS

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Who is Gender Equity Victoria

Gender Equity Victoria was established in 2018 and is committed to building a gender-equal Victoria where women, gender diverse and non-binary people experience safety, respect, wellness choice and economic security. We are made up of organisational and individual members, all with a vested interest in building gender equity across Victoria. www.genvic.org.au