

Hon Jacinta Allan MP

Premier of Victoria

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CMIN-240900132

His Excellency Mr Kyriakos Mitsotakis Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic 8 Efroniou Street ATHENS 106 34 GREECE

Your Excellency

On behalf of the Government of Victoria, I would like to extend a warm invitation to you to visit Victoria during your upcoming trip to Australia.

Victoria is proud to be home to Australia's largest Greek community. More than 46,000 Victorians were born in Greece – over half of our nation's total, and more than 181,000 Victorians have Greek ancestry. Melbourne, our capital city, has the largest Greek-speaking population in the world outside of Greece and Cyprus.

Victoria's Greek community is a vital part of our vibrant and diverse multicultural fabric. The Victorian Government continues to support to projects supporting Victoria's Greek community, recognising the significant contribution to our culture, economy, and society made by generations of Greek-Victorians.

Given our strong people-to-people connections, it is no surprise that Melbourne's Hellenic Museum is the only dedicated home for Hellenic art in Australia. In 2022, we were also pleased to welcome your Minister of Culture, the Hon Dr Lina Mendoni, to the launch of the *Open Horizons: Ancient Greek Journeys and Connections* exhibition at Melbourne Museum, in partnership with Greece's National Archaeological Museum.

It is clear that we share so many close bonds between our people and our institutions. I would welcome the opportunity to host you in Melbourne to discuss in more detail the breadth of these longstanding ties, our shared values and partnerships, and to arrange opportunities for you to engage with the strong and proud Greek community in Victoria.

Should your office wish to discuss options for your visit, they can contact Ms Zhenzi Zhu, Head of International, Department of Premier and Cabinet, at zhenzi.zhu@dpc.vic.gov.au.

I hope to welcome you to Victoria soon.

Yours sincerely

Hon Jacinta Allan MP Premier

cc Mr Emmanuel Kakavelakis, Consul-General of Greece in Melbourne 20/ 09/ 2024

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