

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Monday, 31 October 2022

## APPLICATIONS TO JOIN RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL NOW OPEN

The NSW Government is now inviting current and emerging leaders of religious communities across the state to apply to join the new Religious Communities Advisory Council.

Headed up by the Chair of the Multicultural NSW Advisory Board, Nick Kaldas, the Council will advise the NSW Government on issues and policies affecting religious communities.

Minister for Multiculturalism Mark Coure said the Religious Communities Advisory Council will support the NSW Government's work in continuing to build and strengthen the state's rich multicultural and multi-faith society.

"During the pandemic, religious leaders helped connect us with their communities to keep them safe," Mr Coure said.

"We want to continue this great and collaborative relationship by formalising what we have built up over the last two years and bringing people together through this new advisory Council."

Multicultural NSW Advisory Board Chairperson Nick Kaldas urged community members to nominate themselves or colleagues.

"The NSW Government has shown it is committed to embracing all voices across this State," Mr Kaldas said.

"Never before have diverse communities, who now call NSW home, had so many opportunities to have their voices united and amplified."

Council members will hold their office for two years. They will be appointed based on their demonstrated respect within their communities, their commitment to diversity and their upholding the principles of multiculturalism.

The Council will meet quarterly and report annually through the Community Relations Report. Interested applicants will have until Wednesday, 23 November to apply.

To register to join, or for more information visit, multicultural.nsw.gov.au

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