

Victorian State Election 2018 candidate policy survey

Response ID:6 Data

1. (untitled)

1. Please enter your unique candidate identifying code

2. Your name and position

3. Email address

4. A phone number we can contact you on

5. Will you commit to a Treaty process led by First Nations peoples?

Yes

6. If you answered yes, please provide further details.

The Greens are passionate about creating treaties with the First Peoples of this land. We recognise that the sovereignty of the First Peoples has never been ceded. Unfortunately, the treaty process so far has failed to properly engage with Elders and the sovereign Clans and First Nations and provide true self-determination. We want a Treaty process that respects and acknowledges Clans' sovereignty, culture and inherent rights.

We supported the passing of the treaty legislation after securing crucial improvements. We will continue to amplify the voice of elders and grassroots communities in the treaty process. We will fight for a voice for all 38 Nations. We will establish a Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission so the true history of this country can be revealed and the healing can begin, and we will put a moratorium on all government sales of Crown land, so that their might be some land left to negotiate on in the treaty agreements. We will provide compensation to the Stolen Generation. Read our full treaty election commitment here: victoria.greens.org.au/treaties_truth_and_justice and here: victoria.greens.org.au/redress_for_the_stolen_generations

7. Are you committed to multiculturalism, equality and inclusion?

Yes

8. If you answered yes above, please explain how?

The Greens are deeply committed to building a more inclusive, multicultural and equal Victoria. We are proud of Victoria's cultural, religious and racial differences and we believe our diversity is our strength.

In the last few years we have seen political leaders exploit race for political advantage. We believe stoking fear drives people apart and hurts our very democracy. Racism and divisiveness has no place in our community.

We have started a letter campaign targeted at Victorian parliamentarians to make us pledge against racism and to make space for all people to be heard at: huongtruongmp.good.do/diversityisstrength/askyourMP/?v=5d7ab1cc. This is one practical way to try and limit the misuse of race baiting in our current political climate.

9. Will you propose policies that will prevent discrimination in the policing and legal system?

Yes

10. If yes, what are those policies?

Racial profiling remains a significant problem in Victoria and we support any measure that ensures Victorians, and young people, in particular, are protected from racial profiling and harassment by police. We would like to see the business card trial currently being undertaken continue. We believe this is one effective way in which young people facing institutional discrimination can have clear expectations about their rights, and a widely acceptable means to identify police officers responsible for improper behaviour.

Victorian crime statistics should collect and publish data that allows Victorians to understand the extent of racial profiling affecting different communities. The failure to collect this data reinforces the power of institutions to get away with discrimination and be unjust.

11. Will you implement serious penalties for discrimination in hiring practices?

Yes

12. If yes, what are those policies?

Discrimination of any kind in the workplace is unacceptable. Victoria's Equal Opportunities Act 2010 makes discrimination in hiring practices against the law, in particular in the recruitment process, job advertisements, unfair terms, denial of training, and unfair dismissal. VCAT currently can either create an order to stop further breaches of the law or award penalties, and there is no cap on how much VCAT can award. Considering that this is a serious issue, there is much we can do to improve knowledge in the community about our rights, and help Victorians experiencing workplace discrimination in accessing proper legal and financial redress. When knowledge about these laws are increased, and we understand more about the prevalence of discrimination at work, we can evaluate whether the current penalties are serious enough to stop workplace discrimination or whether, for example, civil or criminal remedies should be available.

13. Will you implement policies that will ensure migrants' prior work and study is fairly assessed and recognised?

Yes

14. If yes, what are those policies?

Please see above.

15. Will you ensure services like health and education are easily accessible to people from Non-European backgrounds?

Yes

16. If yes, what are those policies?

Migrants and people from NESB backgrounds should never be discriminated against in their access to public services, such as education and health and in Victoria access to these services is protected as a human right. Victoria is the only state or territory (other than ACT) where there is a framework that sets out the basic rights, freedoms and responsibilities of all people in Victoria. Wherever discrimination against migrants and people from NESB backgrounds in their access to health and education occurs, the Greens promise to make that fight public.

17. Will you implement programs that will ensure fair representation of people from Non English Speaking Backgrounds in Parliament, Government, and the media?

Yes

18. If yes, what will those programs be?

We Greens believe Victoria's multiculturalism should be fully reflected in the state's social, economic and political institutions. We are leading by example in relation to ensuring people from NESB backgrounds are represented in parliament. It is clear that lack of fair representation in key institutions is a symptom of structural discrimination, but we need to understand much better why barriers to fairer representation exist and this needs to be the first focus of any program.

19. Will you provide more investment in multicultural media, and multicultural arts and culture?

Yes

20. If yes, please provide further details.

We Greens have not currently committed to greater funding for multicultural media, arts and culture as part of our election platform. However, we will consider what is appropriate further investment in the lead up to the next state budget and take account of evidence and advice from the sector.

21. Will you guarantee that candidates from your party will not associate with extreme racist groups like Antipodean Resistance, True Blue Crew, Reclaim Australia, or United Patriots Front?

Yes

22. Will you guarantee that candidates from your party will not single out or vilify communities on the basis of race, religion, or language?

Yes
