

Attention: news editors, ethnic media, interfaith media, social affairs and community writers

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

MEDIA RELEASE

Victoria's peak Islamic body wishes to express its sincere appreciations of the Prime Minister's visit to the Islamic Council of Victoria.

The Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull met with the ICV board and held an hour long roundtable discussion with diverse representatives of Muslim youth.

The open, authentic and engaging approach of the Prime Minister resonated with the young Muslims instilling a sense of unity based on mutual respect.

The Prime Minister's visit gave the Muslim community renewed hope acknowledging that Muslims are a respected and valued part of the 'Australian Family'

The Prime Minister acknowledged the rich contributions the Muslim's have made to Australia and emphasised that the Muslim community needs to be viewed beyond the prism of security.

Regrettably the loyalty of the Muslim community has been questioned in recent years, the ICV believes loyalty cannot be demanded through unfair accusations, rather it must be commanded through mutual respect.

We thank the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull for respecting the Muslim community and showing authentic leadership.

<End Press Release>

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The Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV) is the peak body for Muslim organisations in Victoria. The ICV Represents more than 150,000 Victorian Muslims, through its 47 member organisations located throughout metropolitan Melbourne and rural Victoria. Visit: www.icv.org.au