

Media Release

Volunteering Victoria welcomes Ros Spence as new Minister for Carers and Volunteers

Volunteering Victoria today welcomes the appointment of Ros Spence as the incoming Minister for Carers and Volunteers in Victoria. We are excited to see 'volunteers' elevated into the ministerial title for the first time.

Ros Spence has held several positions within the Victorian Government, including Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Minister for Youth, Parliamentary Secretary for Public Transport, Parliamentary Secretary for Road Infrastructure, and Government Whip. She is a dedicated advocate for local communities and grassroots organisations, particularly through her ongoing roles as the Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Community Sport. The breadth of her portfolio experience to date will bring a strong and well-rounded voice in Cabinet advocating for volunteering.

Volunteers are the foundation of our communities, generously working to build communities and deliver essential community services and programs across all sectors. Indeed, the value of volunteering is to the tune of \$58 billion ([State of Volunteering Report 2020](#)). Its importance to the economic and social wellbeing of Victorians means we have long advocated for a Ministerial Portfolio for Volunteering. We look forward to working with Minister Spence to ensure full implementation of the State Government's Victorian Volunteer Strategy 2022-27.

With adequate funding and support for volunteering infrastructure, all Victorians can be supported to access meaningful opportunities to engage in their communities and experience the benefits of volunteering.

As the state peak body for volunteering, we will be providing briefings to the Minister of the priorities and needs of the sector in times where volunteers and volunteer engagement leadership capabilities are needed more than ever.

For media inquiries, please contact:

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