

TRUTH-TELLING

Information and action for Southern Women's Action
Network (SWAN) members
advocating *against* Racism and *for* Truth-Telling
in support of First Nations people



Acknowledgement of Country

SWAN acknowledges the Bunurong / Boon Wurrung people, the Traditional Custodians of these lands and waters where we meet. We pay our respects to Elders, past and present. In line with our commitment to social justice, SWAN unequivocally supports First Nations people in their campaigns for sovereignty, self-determination, treaties and truth-telling.

May 2021

TRUTH-TELLING: A RESOURCE FOR SWAN MEMBERS

Dear SWAN members,

In the coming weeks, you will receive a resource from SWAN's Supporting First Nations Group (SWAN SFNG) entitled *Truth-Telling: A Resource for SWAN Members*. The resource's purpose is to support SWAN members' concern for social justice via a series of information and action sheets focusing on 'Truth-Telling'. Our approach aligns with the Victorian Government's 2021 announcement of Australia's first comprehensive Truth-Telling process, the *Yoo-rrook Justice Commission*.

Drawing on historical and contemporary sources as well as engagement with local First Nations people, the resource provides 'bite-size' information in four key sections:

1. What happened to the Traditional Owners of the Mornington Peninsula area and their Land
2. De-Bunking Myths and Assumptions
3. Survival, Resilience and Contemporary Issues for First Nations Women
4. Taking Action for Truth-Telling

Topics include colonisation and dispossession, injustice against First Nations women, protection of cultural heritage, the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and Australia Day. Issues for discussion and action will be ongoing and your input is welcomed and encouraged.

Truth-telling is no longer a matter of personal choice; it is a national imperative.

Henry Reynolds, 2021, 'Truth-Telling: History, Sovereignty and the Uluru Statement'