



## **Communique**

### **Aboriginal Housing Victoria Board Meeting**

### **Friday 29 May 2020**

The Board of Directors of Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) held their fifth Board meeting for the calendar year on Friday 29 May via videoconference.

#### **Victorian Government *Building Works* COVID-19 Economic Stimulus Package**

The State Government is seeking proposals from community housing organisations to apply for funding through its new \$498m *Building Works* economic stimulus package. It includes:

- \$35m specifically earmarked for Aboriginal housing to be used for maintenance, upgrades and modular housing;
- \$50 million for community housing providers to undertake maintenance and upgrade work on social housing properties they manage or own;
- \$58 million to deliver brand new, shovel-ready social housing in Reservoir, Balaclava, Dandenong and Hampton Park, (including 2 AHV projects);
- \$125 million for projects that increase housing options for women and children escaping family violence, Aboriginal Victorians, and those leaving State Government services;
- \$30m fund housing people transitioning from justice facilities;
- \$30m fund for emergency and transitional housing; and
- \$10m fund to support women and children escaping family violence.

AHV is proposing to coordinate a bid for the \$35m Aboriginal specific funding, in partnership with Victorian Aboriginal community controlled organisations and Traditional Owner groups with property portfolios.

#### **New AHV properties come on line**

The Board noted that AHV's property portfolio now stands at 1,555, with the completion of 3 new properties located in Melbourne's south east. New tenancies have now commenced in all 3 properties.

#### **Care packs for Elders**

The Board noted that AHV's Wellbeing Team has worked closely with the Operations Team to purchase, pack and distribute over 300+ care packs for our Elders living in AHV properties across Victoria.

Elders aged 60+ have received a little gift from AHV via the post with a message that we are thinking of them during these difficult times. The care packs include a foldup shopping bag,

stationary set, a keyring, playing cards that featured Aboriginal artwork (sourced from Dreamtime Kullilla-Art) and assorted bath/body products including a pair of socks with Aboriginal art designs.

### **Quarterly reporting**

The Board received quarterly reports on progress against the business plan actions and the dashboard report on organisational performance. The Board noted actions underway to continue to improve performance.