

16th of March, 2019

Statement on acts of violence in Christchurch, New Zealand

The Faith Communities Council of Victoria has issued the following statement in response to the recent acts of violence at two Mosques in Christchurch:

As leaders and people of faith, we offer our prayers and sympathies to family members and loved ones of the 50 people killed and many others seriously wounded or traumatised at the Al Noor Mosque and Linwood Mosque in Christchurch during Friday prayer services.

We condemn these callous and senseless acts of violence against our Muslim brothers and sisters on their sacred day and in their sacred place, and stand in solidarity with the Muslim community in Australia, New Zealand and around the globe.

As peak faith bodies we reject all forms of white supremacist and xenophobic ideology that promote racism and exclusivity and pledge to work together to counter growing issues of Islamophobia and violent extremism and radicalization.

We invite our interfaith friends and people, both locally and internationally, to join us in this endeavour and to commit to love, peace, and understanding in place of violence and hatred.

Faith Communities Council of Victoria is comprised of the following peak bodies: Baha'i Community of Victoria, Brahma Kumaris Australia, Buddhist Council of Victoria, Hindu Community Council of Victoria, Islamic Council of Victoria, Jewish Community Council of Victoria, Sikh Interfaith Council of Victoria and Victorian Council of Churches.

[Our peak bodies support the Victorian Values Statement.](#)

Promoting a Harmonious Multifaith Victoria

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