

MEDIA RELEASE

Victorian Sport Unites for Iftar Dinner

4 July, 2016

Vicsport, in conjunction with the Australian Intercultural Society, is hosting the inaugural Victorian Sport Community Iftar Dinner on Monday 4 July, bringing together a broad spectrum of disciplines in one room to experience this tradition.

‘Iftar’ is the evening meal whereby Muslims end their daily Ramadan fast at sunset.

This event will focus on seeking understanding, respect and **acceptance** of others as key contributors to social harmony, and the important role that sport plays in Victorian communities.

The Dinner to be emceed by Angela Pippas, will also include a sports panel featuring Australian Cricketer Fawad Ahmed and AFL Player Ahmed Saad. The Panel also features Australian Paralympian Maddy Hogan who will discuss her final preparations and hopes for the Games in Rio.

Quotes attributable to Australian Intercultural Society Executive Director, Ahmet Keskin

“It is wonderful that the Victorian sports community has embraced this opportunity to share a meal with leaders of the Victorian Muslim community. The Dinner aims to increase the understanding of the Muslim community within sport and it is fantastic that Victoria’s sport leaders are keen to be involved.”

Quotes attributable to Vicsport CEO, Mark McAllion

“Sport in Victoria has the unique ability to unite, educate and support the entire community. The Victorian Sport Iftar Dinner is symbolic of the many initiatives Victorian sporting organisations are implementing to provide welcoming, healthy and inclusive environments to encourage more Victorians and Victorian communities to enjoy the enormous benefits that sport can provide.”

The AFL and Cricket Australia are major supporters and have been involved on the organising committee with Vicsport and the Australian Intercultural Society.

A number of Victoria’s major sporting organisations and supporters of sport are also supporting the event;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFL Victoria • Basketball Victoria • Bowls Victoria • Bushwalking Victoria • Calisthenics Victoria • Cricket Australia • Cycling Victoria • Disability Sport and Recreation Victoria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football Federation Victoria • Golf Victoria • Gymnastics Victoria • Hockey Australia • Hockey Victoria • Lacrosse Victoria • Softball Victoria • Sport and Recreation Victoria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Squash & Racquetball Victoria • Swimming Victoria • Tennis Victoria • Touch Football Australia • VicHealth • Vicsport • Victorian Olympic Council • Victorian Institute of Sport
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The Dinner is being held at the Islamic Museum of Australia (Thornbury) and will include a tour of the museum, guest speakers and a sport panel discussion.

For more information please contact Vicsport CEO, Mark McAllion on 0432 426 477.