\$4.55 million to help build multicultural communities

Community organisations across Australia are being encouraged to apply for grants under the Gillard Government's \$4.55 million Building Multicultural Communities Program.

Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Senator Kate Lundy, today launched the program which will provide funding for community organisations to purchase new equipment, undertake refurbishments and build new infrastructure.

"Australia is a vibrant multicultural nation and the Gillard Government is committed to supporting our diverse multicultural communities," Senator Lundy said.

This initiative follows the Gillard Government's commitment to improve infrastructure that will build social inclusion and provide opportunities to bring together individuals and families in the community.

"This program will provide funding to eligible community organisations that support our multicultural communities and provide local services," Senator Lundy said.

The Building Multicultural Communities Program includes two funding streams:

Stream 1: Grants between \$1,000 and \$10,000 to support non-fixed infrastructure and equipment projects including:

- computers
- printers
- · photocopiers
- furniture
- kitchen and sporting equipment.

Stream 2: Grants up to \$150,000 to support capital works and non-fixed infrastructure including:

- · multicultural hubs
- · purpose built buildings (e.g. community radio stations, performance studios)
- · meeting rooms that form part of a public building (e.g. community/multicultural

Applications for the funding open at 9am AEST on May 31 and close at 5pm AEST on June 28.

Further information on the program is available on the department's website at: www.immi.gov.au/bmcp.

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