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# **Victorian Reconciliation Network Forum**

**26<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

**11am-2.30pm**

**Welcome – Jason Eades**

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# Forum Purpose and Agenda

**Belinda Duarte & Michelle Isles**

Reconciliation Victoria Co-Chairs

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# Reconciliation Victoria Update

**Aileen Traynor**

Acting Statewide Coordinator

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# National Reconciliation Week Slideshow

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# Strategic Plan Overview

**Belinda Duarte & Michelle Isles**

Reconciliation Victoria Co-Chairs



## Our Vision

A Victorian identity that reflects our true history, promotes and celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, equity and self-determination.

## The Way We Work

- We acknowledge that power, privilege and racism shapes relationships.
- We develop just, respectful and meaningful relationships with and between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Victorians.
- We ensure that the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to self-determination is at the forefront, always guiding our work.
- We work with integrity and hold ourselves and others to account.

# How we define meaningful Reconciliation

- Overcoming racism and understanding white privilege and power relations
- Achieving equitable outcomes in justice, health, education and employment between Aboriginal and other Victorians
- Developing a new State-wide identity
- Ensuring government, corporate and community accountability
- Addressing historical injustice

## Our Role - Facilitation

- Further develop our understanding of effective reconciliation activities and approaches across Victoria.
- Identify key gaps within the reconciliation movement and support key stakeholders and the wider community to address them.
- Facilitate networking and collaboration opportunities within and between sectors, groups and communities.
- Contribute to building the capacity of relevant sectors through promoting best practice, fostering community informed thought-leadership and building on emerging leadership across Victoria.
- Play a key role in influencing policy to address systemic issues that negatively impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.



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## Strategic Priority Areas

- Local Government
- Local Reconciliation Groups & Networks
- Education: Schools & Early Education

## Local Government

- Develop a deeper understanding of the impact and effectiveness of local government reconciliation commitments and share effective practice
- Recognise and share good practice
- Advocate for increased Aboriginal voice across all aspects of Local Government - including increased participation of Aboriginal people in governance, employment, consultation and ensuring a presence in decision making
- Advocate for systemic change to progress meaningful reconciliation within and across Councils

## Local Reconciliation groups and networks

- Documenting and sharing effective models and approaches
- Providing templates and resources for group establishment, structure, activities and initiatives
- Facilitating sharing of good practice and thought leadership
- Supporting the growth of Local Reconciliation Groups and Networks across Victoria, including a focus on engaging young people in reconciliation
- Clearly defining the relationship between and among local reconciliation groups and Reconciliation Victoria – how we work together and support each other's work



## Education: Schools and Early Education

- Facilitating relationships and connections between schools, Aboriginal community members and organisations and local reconciliation groups and networks - with the aim of fostering school communities that have a reconciliation culture encouraging respectful relationships with Aboriginal communities and individuals;
- Advocating and supporting a systemic approach to the implementation of the 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures' cross-curriculum priority;
- Investigation of the gaps and requirements for attaining high-level and consistent outcomes against the relevant teacher standards, including effective regulation and accountability;
- Mapping and identifying any gaps in relevant and effective curriculum resources, as well as opportunities

# Ensuring Success



- Reconciliation Victoria is developing an operational plan with detailed activities and timelines related to each strategic priority.
- Regularly review our progress against strategic priorities and goals, informed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, our network and stakeholders

# Reconciliation Victoria Update



- National Reconciliation Week Highlights
- Strategic Plan Overview & Implementation
  - Operational Plan
  - Organisational Structure & Workload Priorities Review
  - Communications Strategy
  - ANTaR Vic & RecVic Discussions
- Local Government Work
- Education
- Constitutional Reform & Treaty

**And lots  
more!!!**

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## Information Sharing & Updates:

- **ANTaR Victoria**
- **Local Reconciliation Groups & Networks**

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# **BREAKOUT SESSION**

- **LRG Members**
- **Non-LRG Members & New Guests**

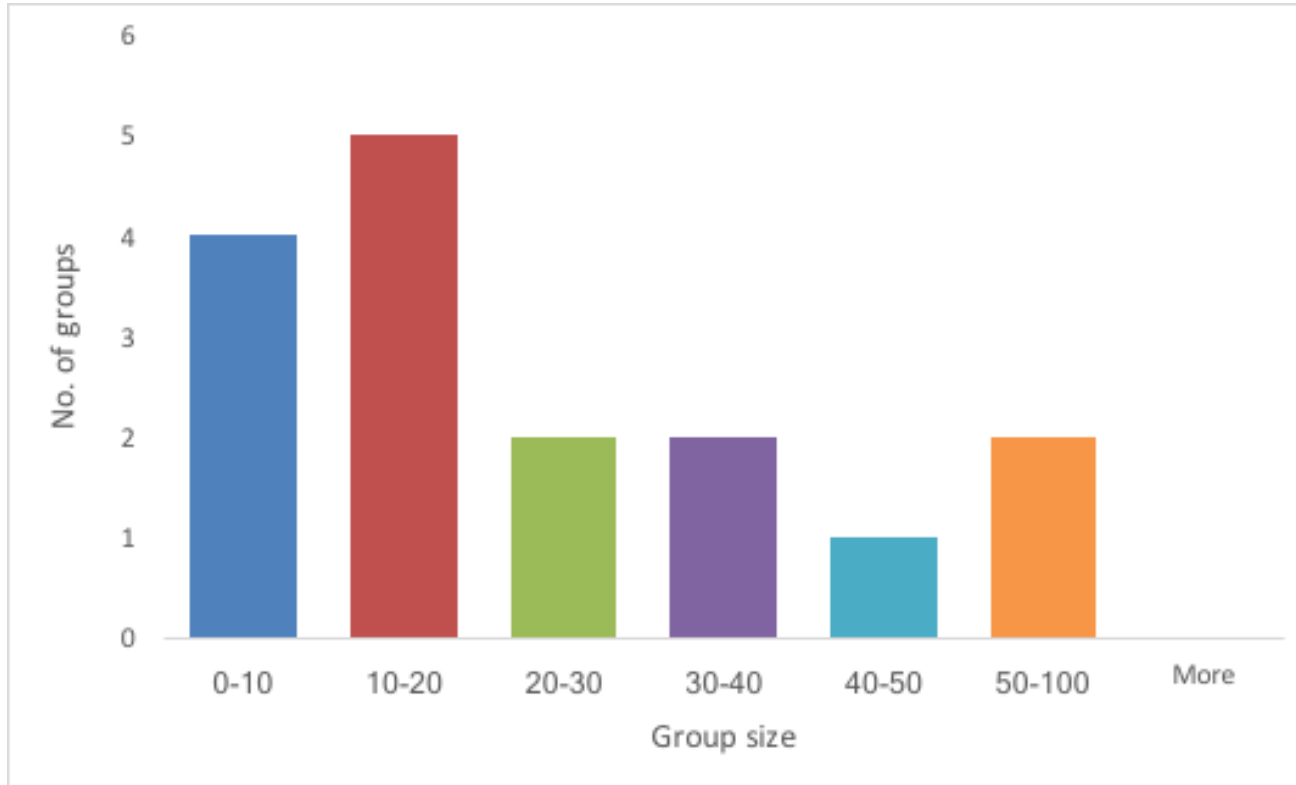




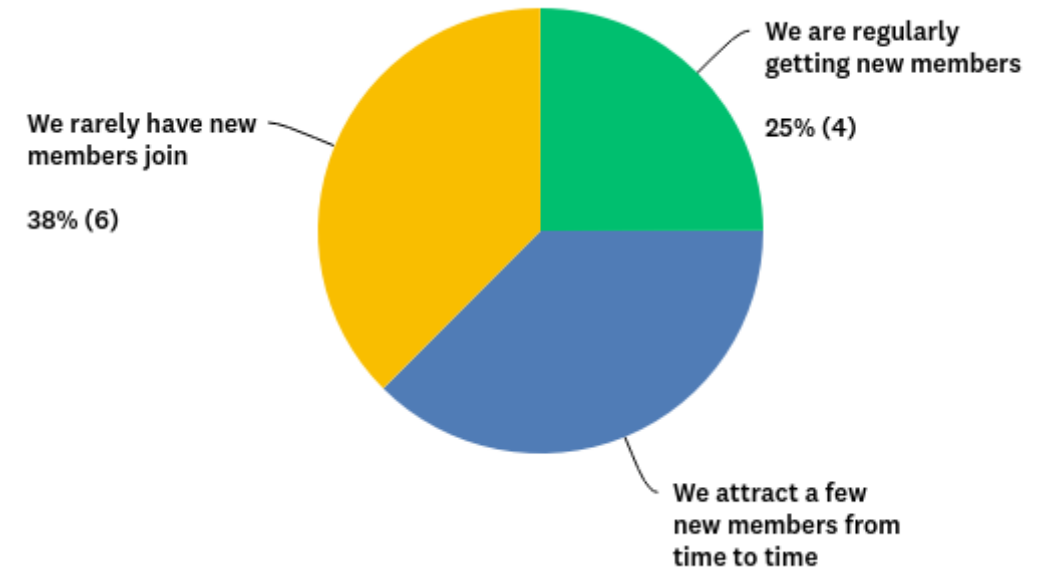
## Grassroots Reconciliation Project

- LRG Survey 2017 feedback
- LRG feedback from March 2017 Forum

## Group Members



## Growth Membership



# Main Approaches of LRGs

**A** - We are a group of people who want to **discuss and deepen our understanding** of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues, culture and history

**B** - We **raise awareness** in our community of the need for reconciliation (and/or justice for Aboriginal people)

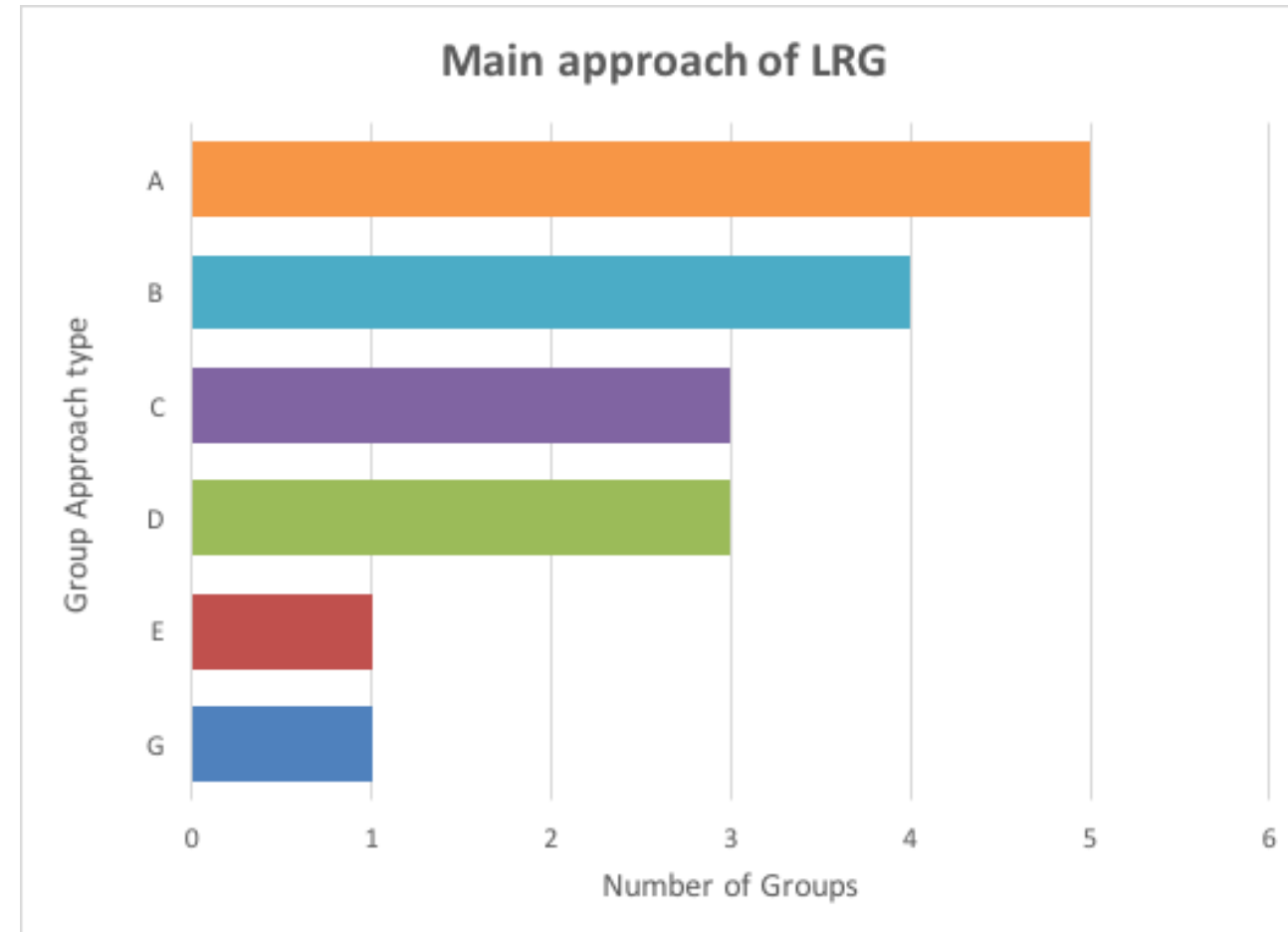
**C** - We **advocate** to decision makers to take steps to advance reconciliation

**D** - We aim to **encourage more people** in our community to participate in reconciliation

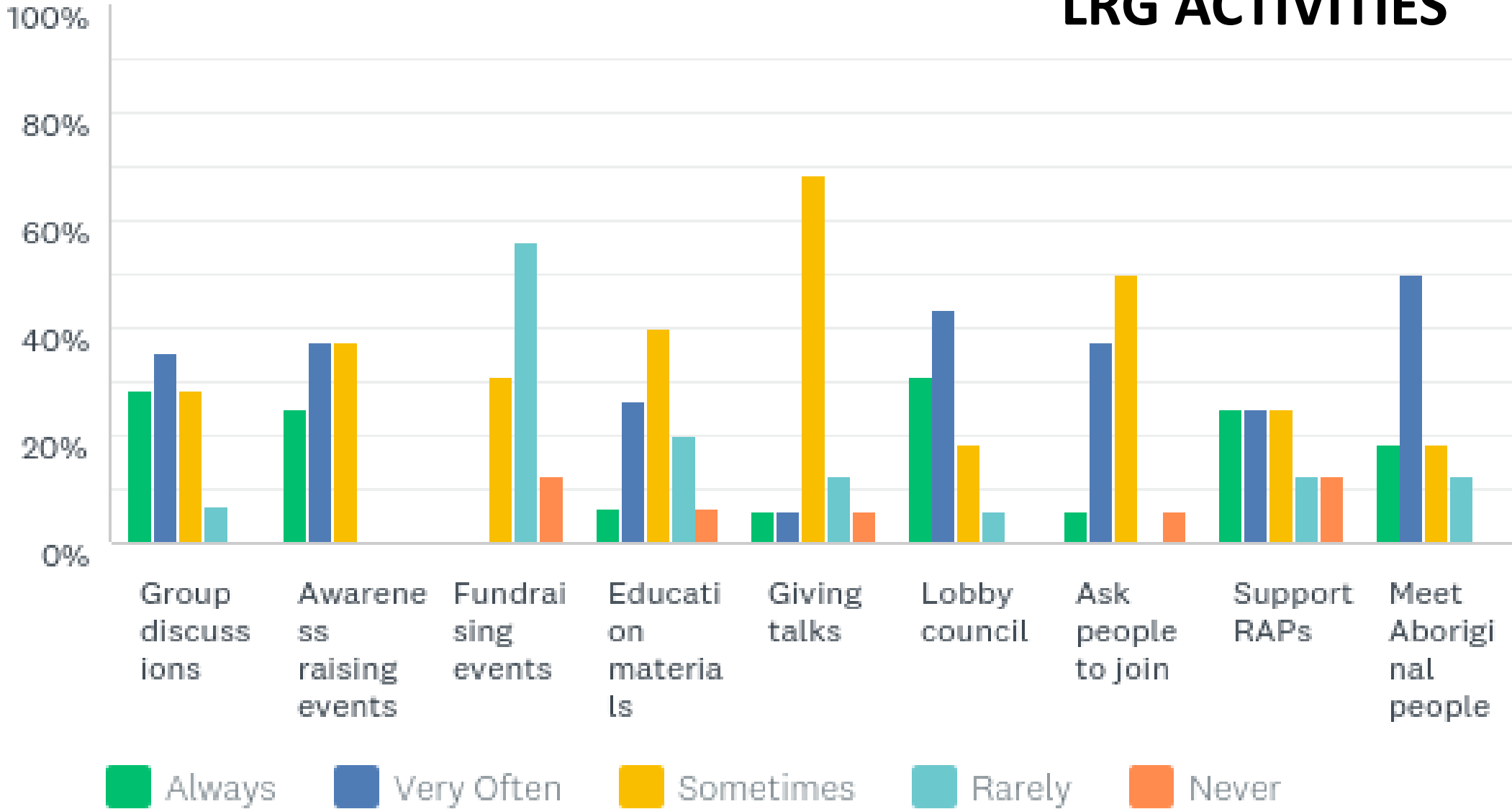
**E** - We are **allies** to our local Aboriginal partners and community

**F** - We are an **activist** group

**G** - Other

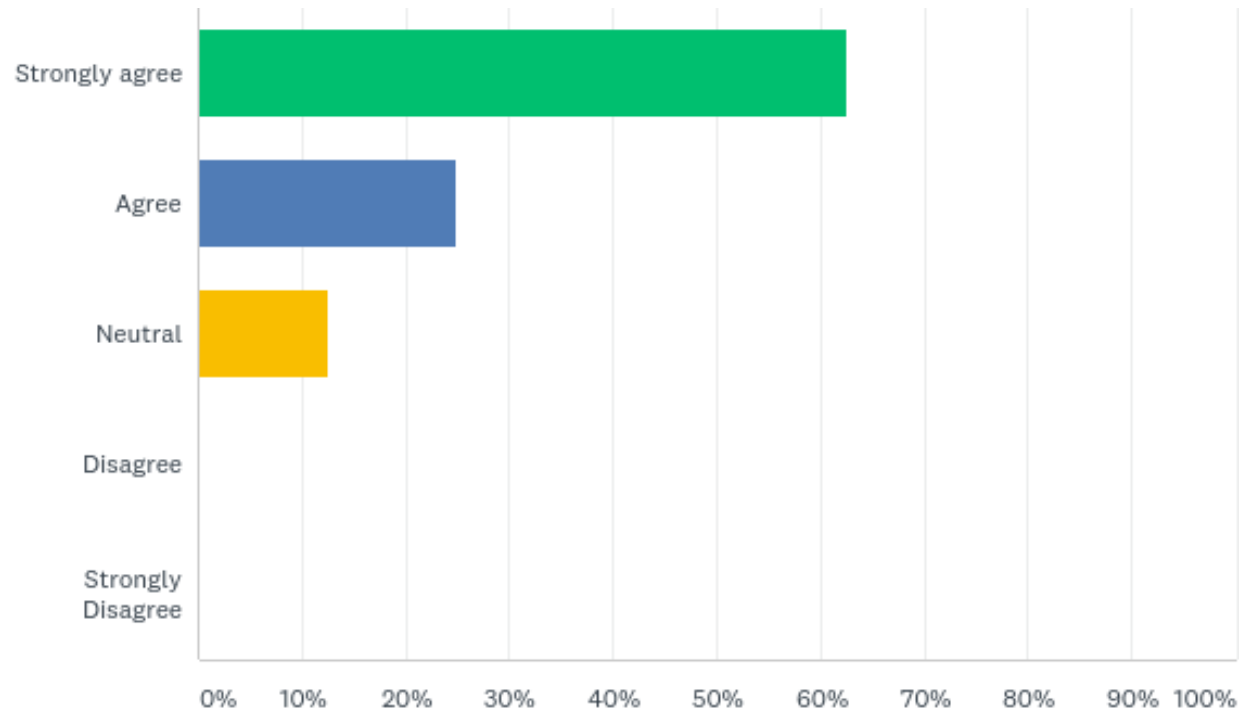


# LRG ACTIVITIES

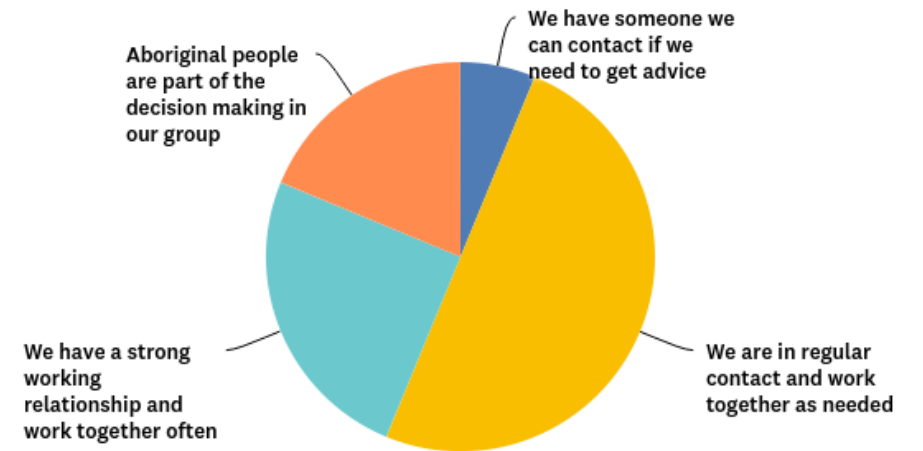


# Key LRG Relationships

## Local Council Staff



## Aboriginal people & organisations



# Information Sources for LRGs

A - Reconciliation Victoria website

B - Maggolee website

C - Email newsletters from Reconciliation Victoria

D - Reconciliation network state-wide forums

E - 'Buddy' relationships or meetings with other LRG

F - Advice from Reconciliation Victoria staff

G - Advice from Reconciliation Victoria council

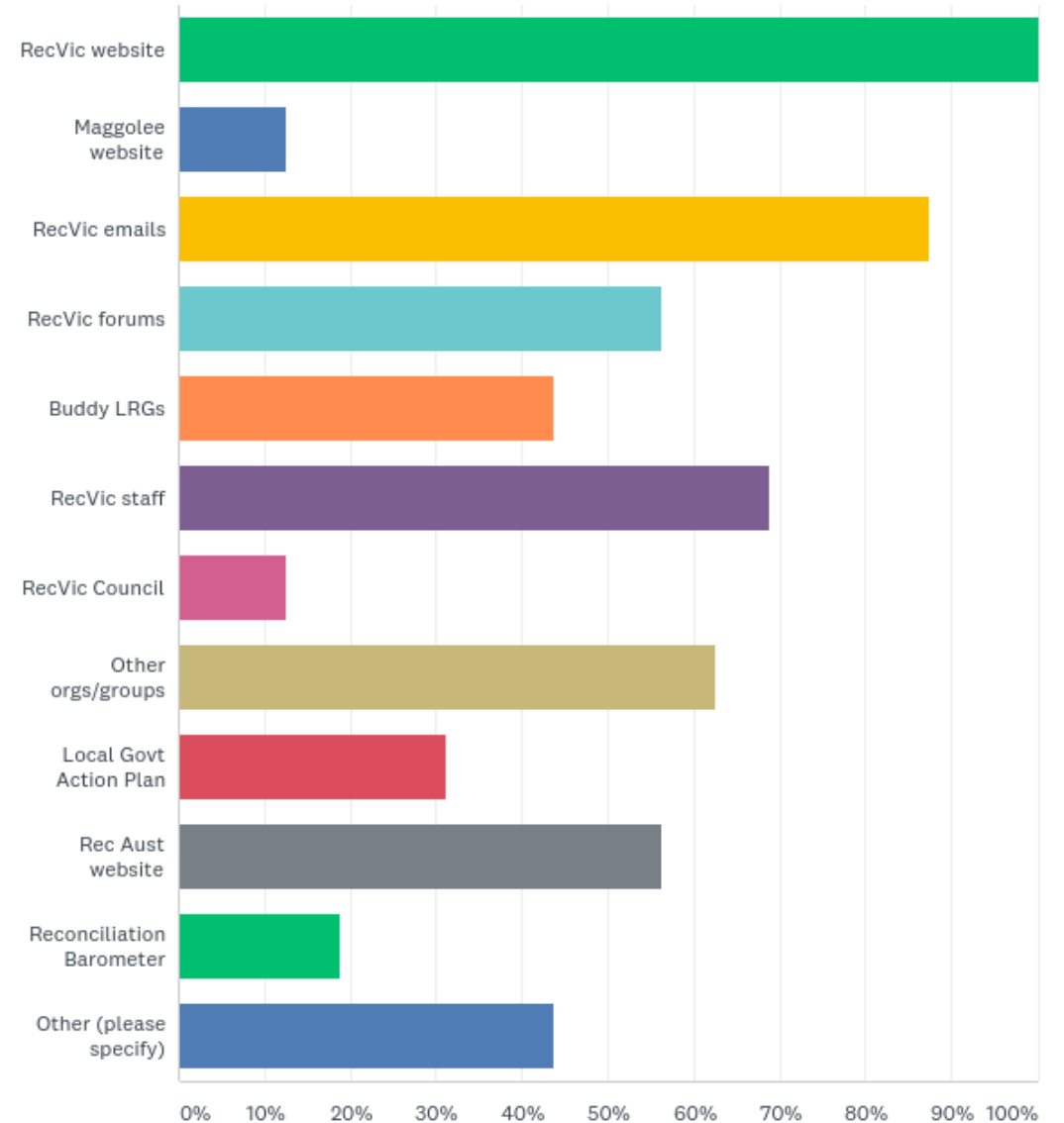
H - Relationships with other community groups

I - Victorian Aboriginal & Local Government Action Plan

J - Reconciliation Australia website

K - Australian Reconciliation Barometer report

I - Other

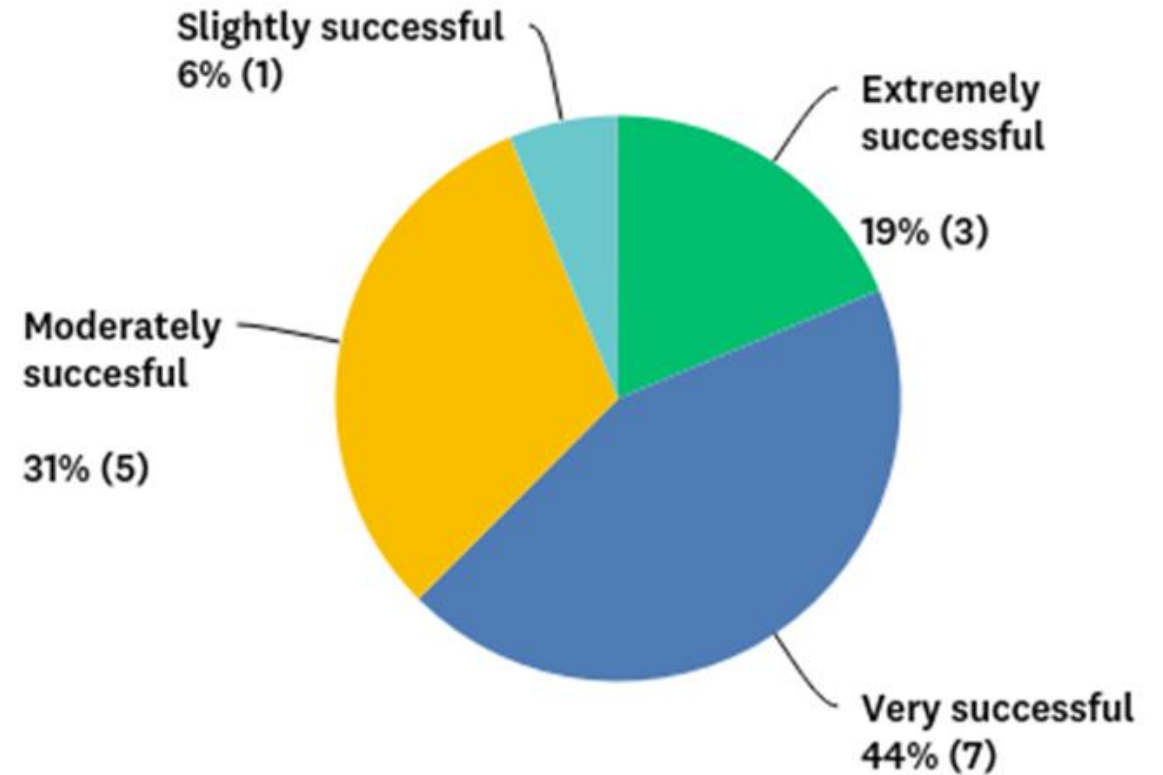


## Support from RecVic

### Most common mentions:

- Source of information
- Source of advice
- Motivation
- Organising events eg. forum
- Attendance at events

## Successful Impact?



# What could build capacity of LRGs? (overview of brainstorm themes)

- Statewide sharing
- Support with community engagement
- Support with relationship building with Local Aboriginal community
- Support with local government relationships/networks
- Materials & Resources







- **Where to from here?**
- **Small Group Discussion**



# Getting involved in Reconciliation

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# LUNCH & Networking

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# Treaty & Constitutional Reform Update & Discussion

Jill Gallagher

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**Thank you for being part of today's Victorian Reconciliation Forum!**

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