

FECCA congratulates recipients of Queen's Birthday honours 2015

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) warmly congratulates all recipients of awards on the Queen's Birthday Honours list 2015.

FECCA Chair, Mr Joe Caputo, acknowledged the diversity of recipients of Queen's Birthday Honours, and paid tribute to those Australians who, like FECCA, continue to campaign for social justice, support and nurture cultural diversity, advocate for refugee rights and speak out against racism.

Mr Caputo said "I particularly would like to congratulate Dr Bulent Hass Dellal on his award as Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in recognition of his tireless service to the multicultural community. Dr Dellal is has given so much back to the community and has provided leadership and inspiration to others." Mr Caputo took this opportunity to confirm that Dr Dellal will be a plenary speaker at the FECCA Conference in Sydney in November this year. Dr Dellal will consider multiculturalism as a defining characteristic of Australia, within the conference theme of '*Multiculturalism in Action: Building a better future for all Australians*'.

Further, Mr Caputo stated "We are also delighted to see Mr Peter Scanlon acknowledged with the Officer of the Order of Australia award, recognising his amazing philanthropic contributions promoting social cohesion and the benefits of diversity in Australia's society. FECCA has strong links with the Scanlon Foundation and congratulates Peter on his award."

FECCA would like to see more recognition, through the Honours system, of grassroots activists and volunteers who work tirelessly to make Australia the diverse and vibrant society that it is. "We should remember to acknowledge the efforts and contributions of those who work with and for our multicultural communities on the ground. Their dedication to community work is at the heart of the Australia's multiculturalism," Mr Caputo concluded.

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