

FECCA to release major reports

FECCA will tonight celebrate a year of achievements for a multicultural Australia with the release of two major reports.

The Chairperson of FECCA, Ms Mary Patetsos, said that the two reports, *'Access and Equity to Feedback and Complaints Mechanisms for Multicultural Communities'* and *'Australia's Bilingual and Bicultural Workforce'*, would form a vital resource for government and agencies in their communications with Australia's diverse communities.

"These two reports set out in detail the needs of our Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities and their access services as well as the ways we can enhance the role of bilingual workers," Ms Patetsos said.

In a message to tonight's event, Senator Zed Seselja, Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs, said:

"I commend FECCA for its invaluable support for the multicultural access and equity policy which promotes government services, programs and policies that are accessible and achieve similar outcomes for all, regardless of cultural and language background."

Ms Patetsos said that the event in Canberra tonight would bring together many of FECCA's stakeholders and supporters.

"And it's a great opportunity for me, as newly elected Chairperson of FECCA, to meet our allies and supporters and to set out our priorities for the year ahead.

"I am delighted that representatives from Commonwealth government departments including Prime Minister and Cabinet, Social Services, Human Services and Health will be attending.

"And I look forward to thanking SBS for the ways they have worked closely and constructively with FECCA on many issues of shared interests."

Ms Patetsos said that tonight's event would include a panel discussion involving FECCA and other peak bodies.

"And it's a great opportunity to celebrate our achievements helping aged CALD Australians as well as our campaigns on behalf of people of migrant and refugee background," she said.

Senator Seselja said: "I congratulate FECCA and all of FECCA's member organisations for all of your achievements over the past twelve months."

FECCA is the national peak body representing Australians from CALD backgrounds. FECCA's role is to advocate and promote issues on behalf of its constituency to government, business and the broader community.

Tonight's event:

Hotel Realm, BARTON, 6pm-8pm

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