



Neil Angus MP

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As Victoria's Shadow Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, what a privilege it is for me to attend the 2019 African Music and Culture Festival 2019.

It is fitting that this awesome event takes place at our city's cultural hub, Federation Square, giving all Melbournians and visitors to our city the opportunity to join in with the mix of cultures that make up Africa.

Today is not a day for standing in the shadows. It's a day to set your tastebuds on fire, dance like nobody's watching, sing at the top of your lungs, drum as if your life depended on it, and enthusiastically take part in the celebrations.

Many attendees today will not realise that some of Victoria's most established migrant groups have come from African countries, with ancestors tracing back many, many years.

Their contributions to cultural, business and community have therefore positively impacted the fabric of our state for over two centuries.

Thank you to the many citizens of Africa who now call Victoria their home, and give locally with pride and determination for our state.

Thank you for opening our eyes and our minds to your traditions, your values and your faith beliefs.

Enjoy the festivities!

Neil Angus MP

Shadow Assistant Treasurer

Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs

Shadow Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs

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This material funded from Parliament Electorate Office and Communications Budget.