

RECONCILIATION TASMANIA'S YOUTH SPEAKOUT 2021
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2021

Good afternoon. I have great pleasure in welcoming you to this special event marking the fourth year of Reconciliation Tasmania's Youth Speakout.

I pay my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community. I recognise a history of truth, which acknowledges the impacts of colonisation upon our First People. I stand for a future that respects and acknowledges Aboriginal stories, culture, language and history.

May I acknowledge among us:

- Clair Andersen, Reconciliation Tasmania Co-Chair and Board Member
- Mark Redmond, Chief Executive
- Marnie Ritz, Project Officer

Firstly, may I, as Governor, offer my congratulations to Reconciliation Tasmania for continuing this important initiative.

I am sure for the students participating in this Youth Speakout that it has been uplifting and rewarding to be able to contribute so positively to our society at this time of local, national and global uncertainty.

Youth Speakout is also important today in being able to engage our young people to think about ways through words, video, art or music in which we can and should work together "to better achieve reconciliation outcomes for Tasmania". Students have the opportunity to express their thoughts and ideas around reconciliation.

Youth Speakout is to be commended for broadening the educational syllabus and for utilising the academic structure of the classroom to bring your commitment for reconciliation, through creativity, to Government House and to the Parliament.

I am very pleased to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank each student participant for coming here today to talk about your entry in Youth Speakout. I congratulate the teachers and parents for their encouragement, and I congratulate the members of Reconciliation Tasmania for continuing to ensure that Youth Speakout maintains its position as a key element of your work promoting reconciliation for all Tasmanians.

Thank you.

David ... [invites Mark Redmond to speak]

Thank you.