

MEDIA RELEASE: World Kangaroo Day event with Animal Justice Party

DATE: Monday, 24 October 2022
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Overview:

World Kangaroo Day is celebrated annually on 24 October. It is an opportunity to celebrate our ancient and unique macropods that are central to Aboriginal culture as Sacred Totems and Creator Spirits. This day is also used to draw attention to the relentless demonisation, persecution and exploitation of kangaroos as part of the world's largest land-based wildlife trade.

The state government has earmarked 185,850 Victorian kangaroos for slaughter in 2022. Average combined quotas have tripled since commercialisation, an issue Victorian Labor was [well aware](#) threatened sustainability before they formalised the so-called 'Kangaroo Harvesting Program'. Now this unsustainable industry is sweeping across Victoria decimating kangaroo populations in its wake. Wildlife volunteers are called to [horribly wounded kangaroos](#), community members are [traumatised by shooting](#) and concerned about disappearing kangaroos, whilst profiteering shooters are [soliciting extensively](#) in a desperate bid to find kangaroos. Recently two of seven shooting zones had their [quotas cut](#) due to [low numbers](#) yet the government still has not called a moratorium on kangaroo shooting despite the [enormous losses](#) in the ongoing flood crisis.

Victorian Kangaroo Alliance has partnered with the Victorian Animal Justice Party for a candidate outreach event at the steps of Parliament House at 12pm on Monday 24 October. Together we will be raising awareness about the unethical, unsustainable and unhygienic treatment of kangaroos.

Quotes attributable:

Andy Meddick, Animal Justice Party Member of the Legislative Council for Western Victoria
(andy.meddick@parliament.vic.gov.au)

"Our iconic kangaroos are under threat. We are killing them in huge numbers and in a few short years they will be listed as endangered. That won't be enough for the agricultural industries who see them as a pest to be eradicated. The time to protect them is now, the time to act is now."

Georgie Purcell, Animal Justice Party candidate for Northern Victoria (georgie.purcell.ajp@gmail.com)

"Our native icon should be protected - not exploited. The Animal Justice Party is committed to ending the cruel and scientific commercial slaughter of kangaroos and the ruthless Authority to Control Wildlife permit system."

"Tourists travel from all over the world to see our native icons, and are appalled to see the true reality of how we treat them. We can and must do better."

Bronwyn Currie, Victorian Convenor, Animal Justice Party (convenor@ajpvic.org.au)

"Kangaroos are iconic native animals so unique they are found only in Australia, we need to protect them and prevent them from ongoing exploitation. They have survived fire, drought and flood only to have a continued program of extermination waged against them by the very government who should be protecting them."

Alyssa Wormald, president of Victorian Kangaroo Alliance and Animal Justice Party candidate for Bayswater

"The kangaroo situation in Victoria is truly dire. It is totally unsustainable, horrifically cruel, dangerously unhygienic, and highly traumatic for Aboriginal people, wildlife volunteers and communities. We know history will judge the governments who enabled this greedy and colonial-minded wildlife exploitation racket."