

## **Session #2: First Nations Perspectives**

Australia has achieved a great deal in building a relatively peaceful and harmonious multicultural society. Still, much work remains for the country to live up to its ideals. The fuller embrace of the rich diversity of knowledge and experience within our country can lead to much better outcomes. The challenges we face as a society are complex, and no one group, ideology or culture has all the answers. The more we draw on our diversity, the more complete will be the picture of social reality available to all, and the richer the pool of perspectives and methods of thought available to draw on. Blind spots can be minimised or removed, and decisions be more robust and durable.

- What can we learn from First Nations perspectives and knowledge to advance social cohesion? How can this meaningfully integrate into our understanding of unity, harmony, interconnectedness, dialogue, belonging, inclusion and our common humanity?
- How can we draw on diverse perspectives in ways that meaningfully inform and shape our shared understanding, moving beyond acknowledgement and celebration?