

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Launch of the Victorian Leadership Academy – 5 September 2016

Belinda Clark QSO, Victorian Public Sector Commissioner

Thank you very much Minister. I should say that when we designed this program with the input of everyone in this room for which I give thanks, that we had a dual purpose. One was to develop the talent and make sure that people could reach their fullest potential, but the other aim was to make sure that it was relevant and useful for government, that our only point of existing as a public service is more than utility, it's to create the momentum to actually deliver the government of the day's program. So we're trying to put the dual lens – what does the government, meaning the ministry need from us in order to be able to deliver it's program? As well as what do our people need from us in order to be able to do that? So it's a coming together of two poles, if you like. Just to give an example, the Special Minister, along with some of us his colleagues have been very generous in giving their views. And I don't mean that in a smart way, I mean literally being very generous in sharing insights into what it is they would like to see more of or less of, or what we could do better. And just one example I'll leave you with because you mentioned communities, Minister, is we want a public service that knows how to engage meaningfully with the community, and we can partner in a way that is respectful but also gets results, doesn't just go around and around on endless consultation, but gets to an outcome - but people feel confident that they've been heard. And that we are mindful of the capability and capacity challenges of partners that we have to deal with, and we've got some thoughts about how we contribute to that as well. So that's just an example of some of the thinking that we want to bring through, it will be an iterative process, very happy to have feedback to change and hopefully improve as we go along. Thank you very much everyone for coming, it's great. We're really proud to be able to launch the Academy tonight,

but of course, the proofs in the pudding, the proofs in the next couple of years. So we're embarked on a journey. And as I say, thanks everyone for getting us to the starting point. Thank you.