



NSW Jewish Board of Deputies Statement on Reconciliation Week 2020

27 May 2020

Today is the start of Reconciliation Week, a week dedicated to building bridges between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

We acknowledge the First Nations people who have nurtured this vast continent for over 40,000 years and have a deep and unshakeable connection to this land.

We also acknowledge that Jewish Australians and the Indigenous community have often fought together in struggles for justice and human rights, from William Cooper and the Australian Aboriginal League's protest against Kristallnacht in 1938 and the Jewish participation in the Freedom Ride in 1965 to the work that organisations like Shalom-Gamarada, Derech Eretz and the Rona Tranby Trust do today.

The NSW Jewish Board of Deputies lauds the goals of Reconciliation Week: historical acceptance; race relations; equality and equity; institutional integrity and unity; and looks forward to a day when equality between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians is no longer a goal, but a reality. We believe that the adoption of the goals of the Uluru Statement from the Heart is a crucial step in achieving this.