



The Hon Victor Dominello MP

Minister for Citizenship and Communities
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

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HONOURING OUR HISTORY: GENERAL PETER COSGROVE AC MC TO LEAD ANZAC CENTENARY

NSW Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello has announced General Peter Cosgrove will lead the planning team for state commemorations of the First World War Centenary 2014-2018.

Mr Dominello made the announcement before a tour of the ANZAC Memorial in Sydney with General Cosgrove and several of the Premier's Anzac Scholars.

"I'm proud to announce General Peter Cosgrove AC MC (Ret'd) has been appointed as Chair of the NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council," Mr Dominello said.

"General Cosgrove is widely respected across the Defence Force and the general community for his services to, and on behalf of, Australia.

"He brings to the role the strong professional knowledge and leadership that will help ensure the Anzac Centenary will be commemorated in NSW with the honour it deserves.

"The Anzac story is a story that unifies and unites Australians – regardless of their age or background. It is a rich inheritance from the past that brings us together and makes us stronger for the future.

"The First World War battles that took place at Gallipoli and on the Western Front created the Anzac legend which is such an integral part of our nation's history and our Australian identity.

"The Anzac Centenary beginning in 2014 will remind all generations about the values our Australian Diggers bravely fought so hard to protect," Mr Dominello said.

General Cosgrove said he felt privileged to play a lead role in setting the direction for NSW's historic commemoration of the first Anzacs.

"The actions of these men and women must never be forgotten and I'm confident our future generations will honour that legacy," General Cosgrove said.

"The NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council will oversee a broad program of state, regional and local initiatives to honour and pay our respects to the Australian service men and women who fought to protect our land and democratic freedoms.

"I look forward to working closely with the NSW Government, ex-service organisations and the broader community on what is one of the most significant commemorations in Australian history," General Cosgrove said.



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General Cosgrove served in the Royal Australian Army from 1965 to 2005, and as Chief of Defence Force 2002 – 2005. He served in Vietnam and commanded INTERFET, the international forces overseeing East Timor's transition to independence. He also served as Chairman of the Australian War Memorial, 2007-2012 and was the 2001 Australian of the Year.

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