



# Suggestion 38

Katherine Chambers

1 page

## **Naming of the new electorate in Victoria**

I propose that the new electorate to be created in Victoria be named **Tucker** to honour the very significant indigenous leader, Margaret Tucker. Naming the electorate after her will be a small step in redressing the low representation of both women and indigenous people in the names of electorates.

Margaret Tucker (1904-1996) was a Yorta Yorta woman and a member of the Stolen Generation. She came to Melbourne in the 1930's and campaigned for indigenous rights alongside William Cooper and Douglas Nicholls (both of whom have electorates named after them) and Bill Onus. In 1932, she helped found the Australian Aborigines League and served as its treasurer. In 1938, along with William Cooper and Douglas Nicholls, she represented Victoria at the National Day of Mourning in Sydney that marked 150 years of white occupation. In 1964 she was appointed to the Aborigines Welfare Board of Victoria and received a MBE in 1968 for services to the Victorian indigenous community. Her leadership was instrumental in establishing the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service in 1973. In 2001 she was inducted onto the Victorian Honour Roll of Women.

Margaret Tucker, known as Auntie Marge, worked tirelessly all her life for justice for indigenous Australians and for genuine reconciliation. She was highly respected by both indigenous and non-indigenous Australians and by people from all sides of the political spectrum. She is an eminent and important Australian and should be honoured with an electorate named after her.

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