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Australian Electoral Commission

Re: Federal Redistribution in Victoria

15 October 2020-10-15

I write to suggest that the new federal electorate in Victoria formed by the 2021 redistribution be named 'Tucker'.

This name would honor Margaret Tucker (1904 – 1996), a leading Yorta Yorta and Wiradjuri activist and civil rights campaigner who worked alongside Pastor Doug Nicholls and William Cooper. Tucker was also a member of the Stolen Generations, an author (her autobiography *If Everyone Cared* was published in 1977), the first Aboriginal woman to be appointed to the Victorian Aborigines Welfare Board (1964) and later join the Commonwealth Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (1968). She also served on the Aboriginal Land Council of Victoria and the Victorian Government's Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee and was instrumental in establishing the influential Victorian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Organisation that worked across Melbourne with Aboriginal organisations during the Self-Determination era of the Whitlam Government (1970s). Tucker's leadership and support were critical in establishing the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (1973) and was a patron of the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency.

Tucker fulfils all the criteria for naming Federal Electoral Divisions. This would be an appropriate recognition of her extraordinary achievements, and an important step in achievement gender parity in the naming of federal electorates.

Sincerely,



Katherine Ellinghaus
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Deputy Head of Department
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