

Community Safety Month 2009

Working together for a safer community

International Safe Communities Day 1 October 2009

Safe Communities Day was celebrated on 1 October 2009 as an international event to recognise the importance of promoting safety and preventing injuries in local communities.

Safe Communities Day marked the commencement of the 13th Community Safety Month (CSM) in Australia during October 2009.

CSM is a time when local communities can showcase their work to develop and implement local solutions for specific local community safety issues. It also provides an opportunity for coalitions at all levels to reflect on their achievements and work on new approaches to achieving a safer, injury free future.

Community Safety Month is a community-based program initiated by the Victorian Safe Communities Network and coordinated by Victoria Police in partnership with the Network. The VSCN and the Safer Communities Unit of Victoria Police coordinated the launch of Community Safety Month 2009 which was conducted by the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Hon Bob Cameron, together with the Child Safety Commissioner, Bernie Geary, the Chief Fire Officer Tony Murphy, Bryce Moore of Delfin Lend Lease (major CSM sponsor), and VSCN Co-Chairs, Nello Marino and Chief Inspector Alan Kennedy. The Victorian launch was held at Federation Square, Melbourne, on Thursday, 1 October 2009.



Adelle Thompson Royal Children's Hospital Safety Centre, Chief Fire Officer Tony Murphy, Thingle Toodle, Road Safety Mascot, Hon. Bob Cameron MP Minister for Police & Emergency Services, Barbara Minuzzo, The Royal Children's Hospital Safety Centre, Christine Withers Office Of the Child Safety Commissioner



Mr Bernie Geary Child Safety Commissioner

Stakeholder organisations including the Royal Children's Hospital Safety Centre, Office of the Child Safety Commissioner, St John's Ambulance, Playgroup Victoria, Consumer Affairs Victoria, KidSafe Victoria, and Neighbourhood Watch showcased their events and resources, and CSM banners were presented to participating organisations. Participants were invited to meet the Minister and the Child Safety Commissioner at morning tea after the official launch.



The aim of the launch was:

1. To give Community Safety Month 2009 a high profile at Federation Square and promote CSM events including Bushfire Action Week, the Weapons Amnesty and Community Safety Family Day at Docklands (Sunday 25 October)
2. To promote safe practices at home, work and play.
3. To enhance confidence in public safety
4. To facilitate partnerships between all levels of Government, community and the private sector.
5. To provide resources and educational materials on safety initiatives to the community.

CSM contributes to each of the three primary safety promotion and injury prevention goals to

- (1) adopt risk management behaviours
- (2) create safe environments
- (3) Implement a positive safety culture.