Chinese Community Council of Australia (Victorian Chapter)

澳華社區議會<u>(維多利亞州分部)</u>

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The 160th Anniversary of the Walk from Robe Media Launch

8 March 2017

2017 ahead will be a momentous year in the Australian history, as the Chinese Community Council of Australia (CCCA) prepares to commemorate the 160thanniversary of the Chinese Walk from Robe by presenting an exciting program of events. Today CCCA hosted a media launch event at the Parliament House.

The Great Walk starting on 6th May will be the first highlight in this meaningful year. The CCCA will take a team of walkers on a journey from Robe to Ballarat to re-enact the epic overland walk that took place 160 years ago. The Walk will pass through many townships and finish at the steps of the Parliament of Victoria.

The "Beyond the New Gold Mountain" conference on 24th June, will examine the trials, tribulations of the early Chinese, contributions of the Chinese in Australia and the present day importance of China as Australia's leading trading partner.

In Mid-August this year, the CCCA will work with partner organisations in arts and cultural sectors to present the exhibition "From Robe to Chinese Fortunes" at Melbourne's Immigration Museum, which will be sharing the stories of early Chinese settlers and uncovering this largely not commonly told story of the Australian history from an artistic perspective.

The "Gala Dinner & Concert" in October will be the perfect ending for this fruitful year, which will also be a tremendous opportunity to highlight the very best of Chinese-Australia cultural traditions and also to honour everyone's contribution in making the whole program a great success.

Quotes attributable to Chin Tan, the President of CCCAV

"The Chinese of the old days have in many ways shown us the way, and so there are many lessons for us to learn from the Robewalk story, in order to help us, to inspire us, to guide us, to walk further and with confidence, courage, hope and trust into the future; a future whose destiny, we, individually and collectively, hold in our hands."

"Robewalk represents, both, our past and our future."

"Robewalk is our Chinese Australian and Australia's history. It is about all of us."