



Office of the Honourable Dr Kevin Rudd AC
26th Prime Minister of Australia

Jessie Zhouand and Razieh Kashefi
Directors, Hope and Wish Foundation Pty Ltd
By email: admin@hopeandwish.com.au

23 September 2025

Dear Ms Zhouand and Ms Kashefi,

Greetings from the Office of Former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd in Brisbane.

I am writing to you about a new project commenced by the National Apology Foundation, a non-profit organisation co-founded by Dr Rudd to advance reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

The Foundation's responsibilities include promoting the spirit and substance of the Australian Parliament's 2008 Apology to Indigenous Australians. For many years, it has freely distributed display copies of the National Apology to any school, workplace or community group that requests one. However, it currently only does so in English. In order to be more inclusive, our office is working with the Foundation to source reliable translations in multicultural and Indigenous languages. Our partners so far include Alliance Française, Società Dante Alighieri and the ACT Urdu Language School.

We applaud the Hope and Wish Foundation for its work to promote respect, multiculturalism and unity in our society. We would be honoured if you would please consider translating the Apology into some of the main languages of Afghanistan. If you agree, the National Apology Foundation would give proper credit to the Hope and Wish Foundation, both on its website and every physical copy that is printed. I have enclosed the English text so that you can properly assess the amount of work that might be involved.

Thank you for considering this invitation to partner with us. If you or your colleagues would like to discuss this further, my contact details are below.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jared Owens'.

Jared Owens
Chief of Staff

Apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples

House of Representatives
Parliament House, Canberra

Today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

We reflect on their past mistreatment.

We reflect in particular on the mistreatment of those who were Stolen Generations — this blemished chapter in our nation's history.

The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia's history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future.

We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.

We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country.

For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.

To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.

And for the indignity and degradation thus inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.

We the Parliament of Australia respectfully request that this apology be received in the spirit in which it is offered as part of the healing of the nation.

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.

A future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great country, Australia.

The Hon. Kevin Rudd MP
Prime Minister of Australia
February 13th, 2008