



2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 9 April 2009

Royal Commission's community consultations conclude

Community consultations for the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission concluded yesterday with over 1200 people from 14 different locations participating over the last four weeks.

Chair of the Royal Commission, Bernard Teague, said that the consultations had been extremely valuable in getting an appreciation for the local impacts of the fires.

"The information we have gathered will assist us to prioritise the program of the inquiry in the preparation of the interim report due August 2009 and the final report due July 2010".

Summaries of the community consultation discussions will be available at www.royalcommission.vic.gov.au over the coming weeks.

"The consultation sessions are just one of the ways in which the Royal Commission is collecting information about the fires. We also welcome written submissions from anyone who can provide the Commission with valuable insights and information".

The Royal Commission will receive general submissions up to 4.00pm on Monday, 18 May 2009.

Formal hearings commence 11 May 2009 with a Preliminary Directions hearing scheduled for 20 April 2009.

Further information can be found at www.royalcommission.vic.gov.au.

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