

MEDIA RELEASE

CCCAV Condemns Senator O’Sullivan’s "Chinaman" Comments and Demands Apology

20 February 2019

With strongest terms we condemn the use of a racially derogatory term "Chinaman" and other offensive comments in the speech made by Nationals Senator Barry O’Sullivan during the Senate estimates on Tuesday 19 February 2019.

The use of such an offensive term from the White Australia age is an insult not only to 1.2 million Australians of Chinese heritage, but indeed to all Australians who share the common Australian values of respect and equality.

Recent Prime Ministers of Australia and Opposition Leaders have repeatedly affirmed the vital contributions made by Australians of Chinese descent to all facets of Australian society and the fact that they are an integral part in the fabric of Australian society - the most successful multicultural society in the world.

We hereby request Senator O’Sullivan to publicly apologise to Chinese community for his use of the racially derogatory term in the Senate.