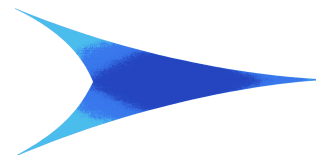


# The Southern Cross Group

Promoting Mobility in the Global Community  
www.southern-cross-group.org



**Join us to Celebrate Australian Citizenship with  
Australia's Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs,  
the Hon. Gary Hardgrave MP**

## **Citizenship Affirmation Ceremony**

**Monday 24 February 2003, 5:00 pm**

*Australian High Commission,  
50 O'Connor Street – Suite 710, Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 6L2*

We are pleased to announce that at the suggestion of the Southern Cross Group, Australia's Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, the Hon. Gary Hardgrave MP, will preside at a Citizenship Affirmation Ceremony during his forthcoming visit to Ottawa.

Citizenship is a matter close to the hearts of many expatriates. This event will provide Australian citizens in the Canada with an opportunity to reflect on their Australian citizenship and publicly affirm their loyalty and commitment to Australia. Former Australians who lost their citizenship before 4 April 2002 under the now repealed Section 17 of the *Australian Citizenship Act 1948* are also invited to attend and express their loyalty to Australia.

We will be spotlighting the various different ways in which members of the Australian diaspora obtain their citizenship - by birth, descent, adoption, loss followed by resumption, or grant as a migrant to Australia, and celebrating the common bond that we all share. Australians, former Australian citizens and their children are particularly encouraged to attend however please bear in mind the limited space and facilities available at the Commission in making your decision. Those who may be dual citizens of both Australia and another country are also most welcome.

The event will be attended by the Australian High Commissioner, HE Tony Hely, and presided over by Minister Hardgrave. It will take the form of a short ceremony at which those present are invited to take an affirmation based on the Australian Citizenship Pledge:

*As an Australian citizen,  
I affirm my loyalty to Australia and its people,  
whose democratic beliefs I share,  
Whose rights and liberties I respect,  
and whose laws I uphold and obey.*

Non-citizens are invited to join in at the second line. Afterwards we will gather for a reception kindly hosted by the High Commission. There is no charge for this event, but pre-registration is essential, due to security considerations at the venue, and numbers are limited.\* Please register online on or before Friday 14 February\*\* at this address:

<http://www.southern-cross-group.org/affirmation/dualaffirmation.html>

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\* Numbers are limited to no more than 35 and places will be filled in order of receipt of completed registrations.

\*\* Late registrations may be able to be accommodated subject to availability and/or cancellations.