



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
VICTORIA

VICTORIAN RHODES SCHOLAR 2020 ANNOUNCEMENT

Wednesday 30th October 2019

The Honourable Ted Baillieu, former Premier of Victoria

Professor Ann Nicholson, Honorary Secretary of the Victorian Rhodes Scholarship

Members of the selection panel

Former Rhodes Scholars

Distinguished guests

Ladies and gentlemen

First, I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land upon which we are gathering and pay my respects to their Elders past and present and to any Elders here with us this evening.

Today, an outstanding young Victorian will join the ranks of those who have, since 1904, received this prestigious award.

I must say that one of the great privileges of the Governor's role is to Chair the Selection Committee for Victoria.

It enables me to see the detailed work that lies behind the selection process. I acknowledge and am grateful for the work at the national level, and I congratulate and thank **Professor Ann Nicholson** who has this year taken on the role as Honorary Secretary of the Victorian Rhodes Scholarship, and **Ms Janet White** who has also taken on her new role as **State Administrator** and has looked after the candidates so very thoroughly.

It also enables me to see the calibre of those serving on the selection committee, and the great care and thought that they bring to the process. May I welcome **Ms Susan Alberti AC** and **Professor Jacinta Elston**, who have joined the Committee this year. A particular thanks to **Dr Evelyn Chan** who, as the Deputy Chair, has assumed responsibility for a significant part of the process surrounding selection, and this year we farewell her.

Above all, this selection process gives me the good fortune to meet the extraordinary young finalists with whom we have just spent the day.

Each one of them is outstanding.

I want them to know that it has been exhilarating to listen to them, to marvel at their achievements so far and to be privy to their aspirations for the future.

Each one of you should feel extremely proud, and I know that each one of you will have a bright future that will contribute in the best possible ways not only to our State and nation, but I expect much further afield as well.

We shall enjoy watching your progress.

And all that said, you will understand that the Selection Committee has felt the difficulty of choosing excellence from amongst excellence.

But we have reached a decision that I am delighted to announce.

It is in two parts.

First, I am pleased to say that Quentin Roth will progress to the Australia at Large interview, soon to be held in Canberra.

Secondly, it gives me great pleasure to announce that the 2020 Victorian Rhodes Scholar is Patrick Maclean. Patrick is a final year student at Monash University, studying medicine. He is hoping to study for a D.Phil in Genomic Medicine and Statistics.