



**First Peoples'
Assembly of
Victoria**

**First Speech by Troy McDonald
Inaugural Meeting of the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria**

10 December 2019

Thank you, everyone. I have brought the wrong version. Look, I just want to kick off and say I do acknowledge every traditional owner in this building today and the traditional owners of this country.

This Assembly is an opportunity for us to take on 250 years of colonial thuggery that has been implemented systematically against our people. I am here today just to say a couple of things. I am immensely proud to be nominated by my traditional owner group to be a part of this first Assembly. This for me is about our waterways, it is about our air, it is about our stuff in the ground, it is about our trees, our animals and our families. What I am prepared to do today is give everyone in this chamber a 100 per cent commitment that I will serve our people with integrity, honesty and fairness on all levels. And I will be prepared to say no at times, but no sometimes leads to a better yes. Thank you.

