

Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP
Celebrating 75 Years of Independence
Session: Homoeopathy@75 Event
Consul General of India, Perth
Friday 20 August 2021

Good afternoon.

I am delighted to be here this afternoon with my wife Patricia and look forward to today's conversation about Homoeopathy@75.

I acknowledge the Whadjup people of the Nyungar Nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting today and I pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

I acknowledge:

- Ms Dantu Charandasi, Consul General, Consulate General of India, Perth – jurisdiction of Western Australia & Northern Territory;
- Other members of the Consulate;
- Representatives from other Consulates;
- Members of the Western Australian Parliament;
- The eminent speakers who have joined us on-line from India:
- Dr Mukesh Batra and Dr Muktinder Singh
- Ladies and gentlemen.

Having qualifications in Health Administration and a Fellow of the Australian College of Health Service Executives I know the importance of a responsive and dynamic health service demanded by our communities.

I acknowledge the medical, nursing and allied health staff, the paramedics and Ambulance service staff, in fact all staff who work tirelessly in our health system in Australia and those in other countries around the world.

We know that the Covid-19 Pandemic and the more recent Delta variant is putting undue and unsustainable pressure on our respective health systems.

Today's topic of Homoeopathy@75 is certainly one of interest and from my limited research a 200 year old form of alternative medicine that claims to stimulate a healing response and strengthen the body's ability to heal itself.

Those who practice it claim that it is a holistic system of medicine based on the theory of treating 'like with like' – the use of tiny amounts of natural substances like plants and minerals which stimulate the healing process.

People use it to maintain health and to treat a wide range of long term illnesses such as allergies, atopic dermatitis, rheumatoid arthritis, and irritable bowel syndrome.

Others use it to treat minor injuries such as cuts and scrapes and muscle strains or sprains.

I know that the first nation people of Australia; the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people – the longest continuing culture in the world dating back over 60,000 years use a variety of bush tucker and parts of plants to treat various ailments.

Such is the health benefits of many of these ancient cures that they are becoming increasingly accepted in the treatment of minor ailments across the entire community of Australia.

This knowledge is passed down through the generations; not through being written down in books; but by the Elders who share their knowledge through dream time stories and practical demonstrations of harvesting the leaves, fruits, berries, flowers, tree bark and a variety of insects.

As the market grows through the product becoming available in shops so the wisdom of those Elders who have passed their knowledge down through the generations gains more prominence.

The Australian health system is responding to a range of these alternative medicines and procedures; and in some cases, they have been accepted for use and application to a broader section of the community.

Much like the early days when physiotherapists, chiropractors and other lesser known health practitioners fought hard to have their services recognised as an integral part of the Australian Health System.

I look forward to gaining more knowledge of Homoeopathy and the benefits it has been providing to people around the world for over 200 years.

Stay safe and thank you.