

# PATHWAYS Information

## Diversity Education for Multicultural Australia

PATHWAYS is a development of a school presentation program commissioned by the Victoria Multicultural Commission in 2010 in response to mistreatment of Indian students in the Northern Region.



"I took the road less travelled and  
that has made all the difference"  
(Robert Frost)

At the request of a government school, a freethought voice (Atheist) was included in one program. This development inspired plans for the PATHWAYS presentation model, designed for a secular education setting, that does not privilege any one faith or philosophy.

Presenters' worldviews include Indigenous spirituality, Abrahamic and Asian religions, the Enlightenment viewpoints expressed by Humanist, Rationalist and Atheist voices, and Sustainability activism. Schools may nominate their preferred combination of voices.

Each presenter talks briefly about their origin and journey in relation to their worldview, and most time is given to a lively session answering students' questions.

This presentation format draws a lot of interest from both young people and teachers. It provides teachers with a fresh entrée to engage students in conversation on contemporary issues involving diversity in values, ethics and beliefs.

The presenters are paid for each presentation and administration costs are in addition. The full cost is \$260. Grant funding may be available to subsidise a presentation. Presentations can be scheduled over 2014-2015.

**Administrator:** Dr Paul Tonson breepathways@gmail.com  
or SMS 0413 010 146  
# # # # #

### Sponsoring Organizations:

Religions for Peace [Administration]  
Council for Christians and Jews  
Living Faiths Commission (VCC)  
Commission for Mission (Uniting Church  
Synod of Vic-Tas)  
Second Strike (Youth Leadership)

Freethought Student Alliance  
Humanist Society of Victoria  
Progressive Atheists (Vic)  
Rationalist Society of Australia  
Victorian Skeptics