



Victor Dominello MP

Minister for Citizenship and Communities
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 12 March 2014

LT GEN KEN GILLESPIE TO CHAIR NSW CENTENARY OF ANZAC ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello today announced Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie AC DSC CSM (Ret'd) as the new Chair of NSW Centenary of Anzac Advisory Council.

Lt Gen Gillespie, currently serving as Deputy Chair, will replace General Peter Cosgrove AC MC (Ret'd) who stepped down in lieu of his appointment as Australian Governor General later this month.

"I warmly welcome Lt Gen Gillespie to the role – his impeccable record of military service makes him an outstanding Ambassador for the Centenary of Anzac in NSW.

"The NSW Government looks forward to working closely with Lt Gen Gillespie as we move closer to the start of the Centenary of Anzac commemorations," Mr Dominello said.

Lt Gen Gillespie joined the Australian Army as an apprentice in 1968 and served as Vice Chief of the Australian Defence Force from 2005 to 2008 and Chief of the Army from 2008 to 2011.

Lt Gen Gillespie said, "General Cosgrove's loss to the Council will be significant, but I'm thrilled at his appointment as the Governor General. I am grateful to the Minister and the Premier for trusting the continuing work of the Council to my leadership.

"There is a much to be accomplished with, and by, NSW communities in the coming months. The Centenary of our first involvement in the Great War commences in just a few short months," Lt Gen Gillespie said.

Mr Dominello paid tribute to General Cosgrove for his excellent leadership of the Council since its inception 21 months ago.

"He is a man of great dignity and humility and will serve all Australians, regardless of their background, with distinction. In particular I welcome his pledge to work closely with Australian of the Year, Adam Goodes to assist his mentoring work with young Aboriginal people," Mr Dominello said.

28 NSW Centenary of Anzac Ambassadors have also had their terms renewed for a further five years. Rear Admiral Ian Crawford AO (Ret'd) has been appointed as a replacement for Godfrey (Rusty) Priest OAM who passed away last year.

Information about the Ambassadors can be found here:

<http://veterans.nsw.gov.au/centenary/advisory-council/ambassadors/>

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