



# International Mother Language Movement (IMLM)

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE 1 February 2016

## CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

**FOR the third time Canberrans will be invited to join in a Language Walk to marks the UNESCO-designated International Mother Language Day on 21 February 2016.**

**The walk will cross Commonwealth Bridge and end at Stage 88 in Commonwealth Park where there will be multicultural entertainment and free fun activities for children.**

This is the third year that the Canberra-based International Mother Language Movement (IMLM) has organised this event. Over 300 people attended in the last two years.

This event brings together people from different communities to raise awareness of the value of all languages, especially endangered languages, in a multilingual and multicultural context.

21 February was proclaimed as International Mother Language Day by UNESCO in November 1999 in recognition of the date in 1952 when students in the then East Pakistan lost their lives when demonstrating for recognition of their language, Bangla, as a national language.

Supporting heritage and mother languages encourages Australians to develop the cultural understanding which facilitates trust and mutual respect across all communities.

**What:** Language Walk (2 kms) and Community Celebrations

**When:** 10.00am (10.30am start) – 1.30pm Sunday 21 February 2016

**Where:** Walk starts at the International Flag Display behind Questacon car park and ends at Stage 88

---

Contact: Ross Dennis, Event Coordinator, M – 0412 341 659, Ziaul Hoque, President, IMLM, M – 0411 031 942  
Postal Address: GPO Box 2152, Canberra ACT 2601 Email: [IMLM.21Feb@gmail.com](mailto:IMLM.21Feb@gmail.com)

Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/1B8i5xV> Web: [www.imlm21.org.au](http://www.imlm21.org.au)