

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP

Premier of Victoria

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Carolyn Pethick  
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Dear Ms Pethick

Thank you for your letter and enclosing a copy of your book, *To Hell and Back: A Policewoman's Story*. Writing a book is no small feat and you deserve to be very proud of your achievement.

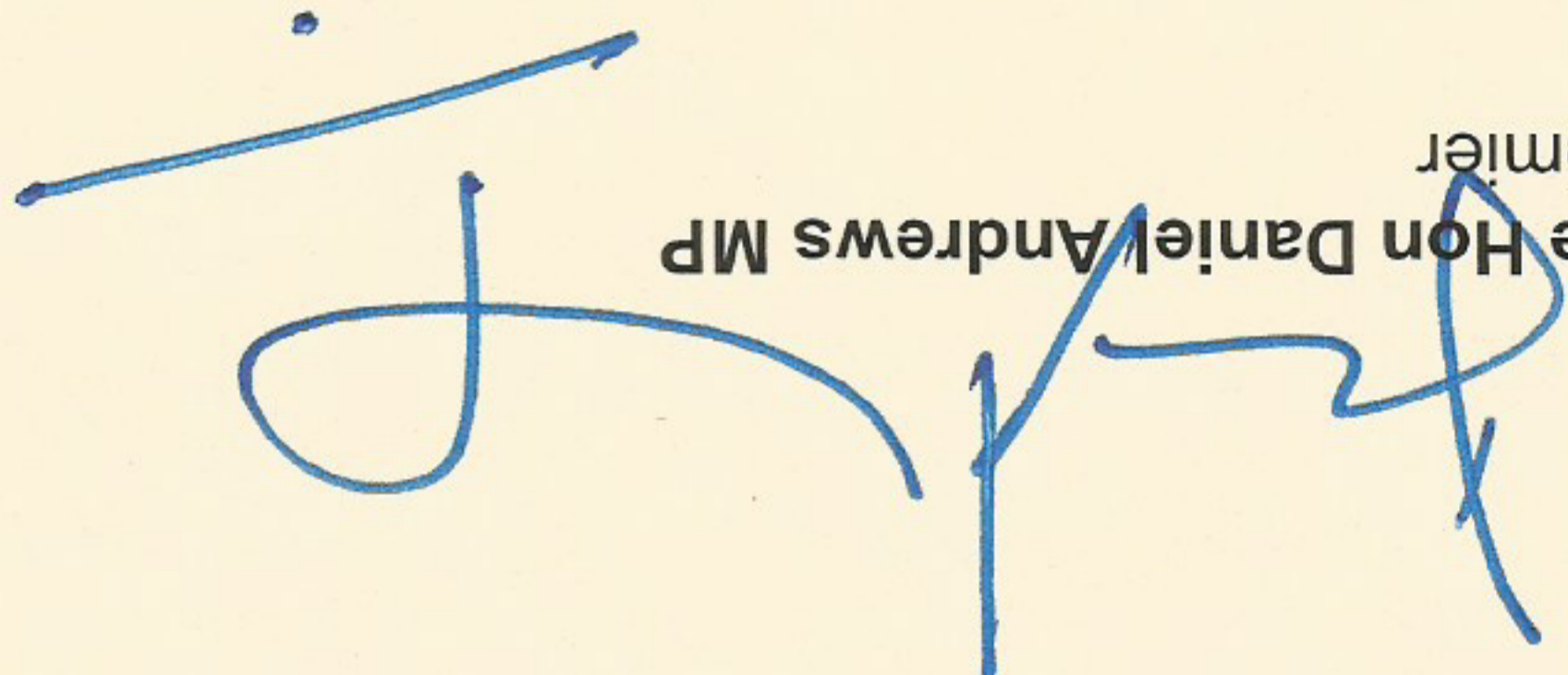
The Victorian Government welcomed the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission's (VEOHRC) report into sexual harassment in Victoria Police, even as we were dismayed by its contents. The Government hopes that the change the report is inspiring will alleviate the reluctance, or even fear, that some women have felt in making a complaint. Victoria Police has formally acknowledged the harm done to many Victoria Police employees, accepting all 20 recommendations in the Report. The Government welcomed Victoria Police Chief Commissioner Ashton's apology to serving and former police members. The Victorian Government values the extraordinary and often dangerous work performed by the dedicated men and women of Victoria Police. I am heartened to hear that you thoroughly enjoyed your time in the force and would still recommend it as a career to other women.

We must always remember that the VEOHRC report began with real people. It is you, and women like you, who have allowed the change to begin.

I congratulate you on having the courage to tell your story. I am sure your book will play an important role in promoting a better culture for women in the police force.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

  
The Hon Daniel Andrews MP  
Premier

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