

Sydney, 6 May 2011

PRESS RELEASE

This year, on the 25th of June, The Republic of Slovenia is celebrating the 20th anniversary of independence - an important historical milestone. Slovenians at home and abroad are preparing to celebrate this important event.

The Australian Slovenian community was very much involved in Slovenia's struggle for independence 20 years ago. Celebrations to mark this milestone will be held in Slovenian communities throughout the Australia, with particular highlights planned for Sydney and Melbourne.

The Sydney organising committee, comprising of representatives of all Slovenian clubs and organizations in NSW, has been planning celebrations for around 6 months. The program includes social events, a book launch, a DVD release and a National Day Reception at Parliament House.

The calendar of events marking Sydney's celebrations are as follows:

Sunday, June 19 - 20th Anniversary Celebration, including formal lunch, held at **Triglav – Panthers**, 80-84 Brisbane Road, St Johns Park at **12.00 noon** - Entertainment by "The Masters". For all enquiries contact: Mr. Huy Vu, General Manager on: (02) 9426 1000 or E-mail: Triglav@panthers.com.au

Thursday, June 23 – National Day Reception, for the Consular Corps in NSW, organized by the **Honorary Consul General, Mr. Alfred Brežnik AM**, will be held in Strangers Dining Room, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney at **12.30pm**. All enquiries: (02) 9517 1591 or E-mail: slovcon@emona.com.au

Saturday, June 25 – Solemn Academy to Commemorate the 20th Anniversary of Independence of Slovenia at **St. Raphael Slovenian Mission** in conjunction with the **Historical Archive for Slovenian Australians – NSW (HASA)** at 313 Merrylands Road, Merrylands at **6.00pm**. The highlight of the program is the launch of the book "*From Dreams to Reality*", which chronicles the activities of Slovenians in Australia at the time of Slovenian independence. The program will also feature an exhibition and a 40 minute video. There will also be a Reception - food and refreshments will be provided.

Sunday, June 26 – Mass for the Homeland at St. Raphael Slovenian Church, 313 Merrylands Road, Merrylands at **9.30am**.

Sunday, June 26 – 20th Anniversary Celebration, including formal lunch, held at **Slovenian Association Sydney**, 2-8 Elizabeth Street, Wetherill Park at **12.00 noon** – Entertainment by "Alpine Echoes". For all enquiries contact: Mr. Stefan Šernek, president on: (02) 9528 3423.

On behalf of the:

Organising Committee for the 20th Anniversary of Slovenia's Independence Celebrations in NSW

Alfred Brežnik AM

Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia

PO Box 188 Coogee NSW 2034 Australia

Tel (02) 9517 1591 Fax (02) 9519 8889 Email slovcon@emona.com.au