



## **The Hon Darren Chester MP**

Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Minister for Defence Personnel

Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

Thursday 14 February 2019

### **REAPPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL**

THE Honourable Dr Brendan Nelson AO will continue as Director of the Australian War Memorial until 31 December 2019.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Darren Chester said Dr Nelson had made a significant contribution to the Australian War Memorial since his appointment as Director in December 2012, including extensive upgrades to the Memorial and overseeing the Centenary of Anzac program.

"Dr Nelson's contribution to the Australian War Memorial has been outstanding as it continues to raise awareness of the service and sacrifice by current and former serving members of the Australian Defence Force," Mr Chester said.

"The Australian War Memorial is a world-class institution and as it approaches the period after the Anzac Centenary it's a critical period as a memorial to the members of the Australian armed forces who have died or served in conflict.

"Our \$498 million investment in the Australian War Memorial's redevelopment announced last year will ensure we honour all Australians who have served in our armed forces, and those men and women who serve today and help tell their stories in new ways."

In 2016, Dr Nelson was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for his services to the Parliament of Australia, to the community, to the advancement of Australian international relations and to major cultural institutions.

Dr Nelson has also been conferred Honorary Life Membership by the Returned and Services League of Australia (New South Wales Branch).

**ENDS**

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