



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Ref No: MC21-048909

Ms Margaret Kwiatkowska
President, Polish Community Council of Australia
68 Victoria Street
ASHFIELD NSW 2131

Dear Ms Kwiatkowska

Thank you for your correspondence of 29 October 2021 to the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs, the Hon Alex Hawke MP, concerning the book entitled *A History of the Department Immigration – Managing Migration to Australia*. The Minister appreciates the time you have taken to bring this matter to his attention and has asked that I reply on his behalf. I apologise for the delay in responding.

You have raised concerns of the Polish community in Australia that the significant refugee flows from Poland after the Second World War and the Solidarity arrivals forty years later were not given similar prominence to other historical events in the publication. While the Department of Home Affairs does not currently plan to publish a new edition of this book, which was produced to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the previous Department of Immigration and Border Protection, your correspondence will be taken into account should any future publications of a similar nature be developed.

You can be assured that the Australian Government recognises that present day Australia owes its strength and prosperity to the economic and social contributions of successive generations of migrants coming to our shores. Polish Australians are an integral part of the Australian society and community and have made Australia the vibrant and successful multicultural nation it is today. Your invaluable contribution to our shared history is very much appreciated.

Thank you for raising this matter with the Minister and I wish you and all Polish Australians a happy new year.

Yours sincerely

Director, Immigration Research and Analysis Section
Immigration and Settlement Services Group
18 January 2022