

WALGA Webinar: Local Government Support for Aboriginal Language and Place Names



Date: Thursday, 28 May 2020

Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm

WEBINAR OVERVIEW

Please join us for this fantastic opportunity to learn about how Local Government use of Aboriginal language and place names assists with promoting broader community awareness of Aboriginal history and culture. The program will cover research approaches and culturally appropriate consultation processes for the Aboriginal naming of geographic features and built assets.

- 1:00pm** **Welcome and Introduction**
Melanie Davies, Biodiversity and Sustainability Project Officer, WALGA
- 1:05pm** **Welcome to Country**
Professor Len Collard
- 1:10pm** **Place Names - Engaging Communities in Aboriginal Stories, Language and Culture**
Professor Len Collard and Monica Kane, CEO, Community Arts Network
- 1:30pm** **What's in a Name? The Katanning Place Names Project**
Denise Gallanagh-Wood, Community Development and Projects Coordinator, Shire of Katanning;
Julie Hayden, Business Development Manager, Badgebup Aboriginal Corporation
- 1:50pm** **Landgate - Place Naming in Western Australia and Guidelines for Aboriginal and Dual Naming**
Michael Simpson, Geospatial Officer – Names and Addressing;
Glenn Christie, Senior Consultant – Names and Addressing, Landgate
- 2:05pm** **Mindeerup - More Than A Name**
Danielle Cattalini, Manager Stakeholder and Customer Relations;
Duncan McKay, Arts Officer;
Margaret King, Community Development Coordinator, City of South Perth
- 2:25pm** **Main Roads Aboriginal Journey Ways Project**
Georgina Gibbs, Acting Project Manager Corporate Projects, Main Roads WA
- 2:45pm** **Interactive Workshop Session**
Susie Moir, Community Policy Officer;
Melanie Davies, Biodiversity and Sustainability Project officer, WALGA
- 3:00pm** **Close of Event**



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Professor Len Collard and Monica Kane, Chief Executive Officer, Community Arts Network, will discuss *Place Names*, a five year program aimed at engaging communities across Noongar country and beyond in the Aboriginal stories, language and culture of each place. The project is an initiative based on Professor Len Collard's long-term research into the meaning of towns and places with Noongar names. Len and Monica will discuss the approach to working with the community, and the critical research and consultation process followed.

Denise Gallanagh-Wood, Community Development and Projects Coordinator, and Julie Hayden, Business Development Manager, Badgebup Aboriginal Corporation will provide an overview of the process and benefits of the Place Names project in Katanning. The project facilitated opportunities for the community to develop trust and to create a shared understanding of local history. Through the process of decoding Noongar place names, the Noongar story about the giant man, Mulka, emerged. Community Arts Network worked with the Katanning Noongar Leaders Group, Noongar Elders, school students and a puppeteer to bring the story to life in the main street of Katanning during a community celebration festival.

Michael Simpson, Geospatial Officer - Names and Addressing; and Glenn Christie, Senior Consultant – Names and Addressing, Landgate, will provide an overview of Landgate's draft Aboriginal and Dual Naming Guidelines, which have been released for community consultation and are due to be finalised this year. Michael and Glenn will discuss the roles and responsibilities of Landgate and the Minister of Lands and Geographic Names Committee, and the recommended place naming process for Aboriginal and dual naming. Michael and Glenn will also discuss Landgate's policies and standards that apply to all place names, and the types of naming that Landgate is responsible for managing.

Danielle Cattalini, Manager Stakeholder and Customer Relations; Duncan McKay, Arts Officer; and Margaret King, Community Development Coordinator, City of South Perth will tell the story of how the area surrounding Mends Street Jetty on the banks of the Swan River 'reclaimed' the Noongar name 'Mindeerup – the place of the shore' in December 2019. The naming was part of the opening of a \$7.5 million project called Connect South. Mindeerup is an arrival point as the ferry crosses from Elizabeth Quay, and connects the Perth CBD to South Perth and to the Perth Zoo. It is also a Noongar meeting place of culture and heritage. The team at the City of South Perth will discuss the process of arriving on a name, and the consultation, engagement, relationship building and truth telling involved. The team will provide insights on reclaiming what was, and what it means for the community and beyond.

Georgina Gibbs, Acting Project Manager Corporate Projects, Main Roads WA (MRWA) will discuss the Aboriginal Journey Ways project, a collaborative initiative with Kurongkurl Katitjin, the Centre for Australian Indigenous Education at Edith Cowan University. The project aims to investigate, document and share traditional Aboriginal journey ways, tracks and places that align with Main Roads' road network across the state. Georgina will discuss the research outcomes to date and future plans to honour this part of Aboriginal culture and heritage by sharing the journeys and associated stories with the wider community, road users and visitors to Western Australia.