



WALGA



WALGA Aboriginal Forum

‘Doyntj Doyntj Come Together’

Wednesday, 22 September 2021 | Crown Perth

Sponsored by:



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

Western Australian Local Government Association
ONE70 Level 1, 170 Railway Parade
West Leederville WA 6007

Our meeting place is the Swan River Nyoongar Boodja, where we come together for a day of learning and celebration of the positive work occurring between Local Governments and their Aboriginal communities.

Doyntj Doyntj Katadjin Manjar Narlak Beeliar Whadjuk Boodja



Come Together Learning at Meeting Place Swan River Nyoongar Boodja

Front Page Artwork: Whadjuk Country by Kevin Bynder, Whadjuk-Yuet-Balaadong man

Forum artwork: Steven Jacobs, Whadjuk man, Community Development Officer - Aboriginal Engagement, City of Rockingham

Program

08:30 – 09:00	Registrations and tea/coffee
09:00 – 09:05	Welcome and Introduction Deputy President, WALGA and Local Government Reconciliation Network
09:05 – 09:10	Presidents Address President, WALGA
09:10 – 09:20	Welcome to Country Dr Richard Walley OAM
09:20 – 09:45	Opening address Hon Stephen Dawson MLC, Minister for Mental Health; Aboriginal Affairs; Industrial Relations
09:45 – 10:45	Walking together towards 2029 and beyond Danjoo Koorliny Leaders
10:45 – 11:15	Morning tea
11:15 – 11:35	Aboriginal employment and traineeship programs Shire of Halls Creek
11:35 – 11:55	Walyalup – what’s in a name City of Fremantle
11:55 – 12:15	Let’s talk about racism City of Melville and City of Cockburn
12:15 – 12:35	The Path of Pain – a journey of resilience, healing and reconciliation in bringing to light the real story of the Bernier and Dorre Island Histories Shire of Carnarvon and Lock Hospital Working Group
12:35 – 01:15	Lunch
01:15 – 03:10	Concurrent sessions (<i>see overleaf</i>)
03:20 – 03:30	Commonwealth Government closing address Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP, Minister for Indigenous Australians
03:30 – 03:50	State Government closing address Hon John Carey MLA, Minister for Housing; Local Government
03:50 – 04:30	Afternoon tea and entertainment

Concurrent sessions

Session 1	Celebrate: Aboriginal Landcare and Thriving Culture
01:15 – 01:20	Session Outline and Introduction WALGA
01:20 – 01:40	Continuous cultural connection to country Undalup Association
01:40 – 02:00	Protecting the Dukes Dunes – a practical partnership in coastal management and cultural heritage in the Shire of Esperance Shire of Esperance
02:00 – 02:20	Aboriginal Tourism Academy: a business mentoring opportunity for Local Governments WAITOC and City of Perth
02:20 – 02:40	Gathering Noongar water knowledge for the urban Djarlgarro Beeliiar catchment UWA
02:40 – 03:10	Facilitated workshop session

Session 2	Inspire: Reconciliation Action Planning
01:15 – 01:20	Session Outline and Introduction WALGA
01:20 – 02:45	Reconciliation WA's 'RAP Ready' forum Reconciliation WA, Kambarang Services and CSD Network
02:45 – 03:10	Question and answer session

Session 3	Motivate: Closing the Gap
01:15 – 01:20	Session Outline and Introduction Shahna Rind, Department of Communities
01:20 – 01:35	Engaging with long term purpose and programs that address systematic disadvantage in local communities Department of Communities
01:35 – 01:50	State Government Closing the Gap Implementation Plan and Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy Department of the Premier and Cabinet
01:50 – 02:05	ALGA Closing the Gap Implementation Plan WALGA
02:05 – 02:20	Storylines Digital Archive: connecting communities, revitalising culture, creating opportunity State Library of WA
02:20 – 03:10	Facilitated workshop session

Abstracts

Danjoo Koorliny

Walking together towards 2029 and beyond

Danjoo Koorliny Leaders Dr Richard Walley OAM, Professor Emeritus Colleen Hayward AM, Carol Innes and Ezra Jacobs-Smith

Danjoo Koorliny *Walking Together Towards 2029 and Beyond* is a bold, long-term, large-scale, Aboriginal-led systems change project to help all of us - be it in Western Australia, the rest of Australia, or around the world - walk together as Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to co-create a better future for all.

Join the Danjoo Koorliny leaders to discuss how we can create what we want to see in 2029 now.

Shire of Halls Creek

Aboriginal employment and traineeship programs

Noel Mason (Chief Executive Officer)

The Shire has used Aboriginal employment and traineeship programs as an opportunity to improve community engagement; whilst delivering social and safety outcomes for the youth and community of Halls Creek. The Shire's activities demonstrate the true value of engagement utilising concepts of Asset Based Community Development, empowerment and inclusion principles – whilst applying a healthy dose of good old remote community get up and go.

City of Fremantle

Walyalup – what's in a name

Brendan Moore (Aboriginal Engagement Officer)

Russell Kingdom (Manager City Design and Projects)

In 2019, the then Minister for Lands Ben Wyatt wrote to the City to encourage the conservation and use of local Aboriginal language in a new urban renewal project at Kings Square, in the heart of Fremantle. The City of Fremantle's Reconciliation Action plan had identified opportunities for renaming, and Walyalup was born. The next two years was a comprehensive exercise in negotiation, compromise, cultural learning and community development.

City of Melville and City of Cockburn

Let's talk about racism

Leanne Woods (First Nations Engagement Advisor, City of Melville)

Barbara Freeman (Family and Community Development Manager, City of Cockburn)

Marlee Kickett (Aboriginal, Community Development Officer, City of Cockburn)

'Let's Talk About Racism' is a successful, unique and evolving program that tackles racism head on, its impacts, causes and solutions.

This program, involving Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal staff from the neighbouring cities of Cockburn and Melville, aims to increase awareness and understanding of racism, and discuss ways to step up and take action to stop its perpetuation.

Shire of Carnarvon and Lock Hospital Working Group

The Path of Pain – a journey of resilience, healing and reconciliation in bringing to light the real story of the Bernier and Dorre Island Histories

Dr Jade Pervan and Kathleen Musulin (Lock Hospital Working Group)

Deb Wilkes (Shire of Carnarvon)

This presentation will focus on the history of the Bernier and Dorre Island Lock Hospitals. Operating between 1908 and 1919, more than 800 Aboriginal women, men and children were removed from their homelands and forcibly placed on these remote islands.

Many never returning home. This removal of people led to the dislocation of generations of people from their families, communities and country, and interrupted the ability to care for country and undertake cultural practices and responsibilities.

These forced incarcerations caused physical, social, emotional, cultural and spiritual trauma to the individuals directly affected and their descendants.

As primarily community driven and Aboriginal-led, supported by the Shire of Carnarvon, this project will showcase an acknowledgement journey that enabled truth telling and healing for all people connected to this story. It is a testament to the premise that for reconciliation to be effective, it must involve truth telling that actively addresses issues of inequality, systemic racism and instances where the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are ignored, denied or reduced.

Undalup Association**Continuous cultural connection to country**

Wayne Webb (Wadandi Elder)

The Wadandi People have a long association with the South West and its natural resources. Aboriginal lore (learning and knowledge of tradition) dictates how best to keep “Caring for Country” and this is something the Undalup Association is sharing with the broader South West communities.

Aboriginal heritage is a central element in Aboriginal spirituality and customary lore and is inseparable from the natural environment.

This presentation will discuss how Wadandi knowledge is being used for the sustainable management of natural resources; the land, water, marine and biological systems.

Shire of Esperance**Protecting the Dukes Dunes – a practical partnership in coastal management and cultural heritage in the Shire of Esperance**

Mathew Walker (Director Asset Management)

The Esperance coastal landscape and associated cultural heritage sites and values are extremely important to the Esperance Nyungar people. Orleans Bay Regional Park, aka ‘The Duke’ is one of Esperance’s most prized and valued beaches for both tourists and locals alike. A collaborative project between the Shire, Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, Duke of Orleans Bay Caravan Park, Coastwest, and South Coast NRM is protecting the environmental and cultural values around the Duke, while ensuring recreational activities are sustainable for current and future generations.

The collaborative approach has had significant benefits for all stakeholders involved, and sets up the model the Shire will use going forward when working in culturally significant areas.

City of Perth and the WA Indigenous Tourism Operators Council (WAITOC)**Aboriginal Tourism Academy: a business mentoring opportunity for Local Governments**

Robert Taylor (Chief Executive Officer, WAITOC)

Tijah Colleran (Economic Development Officer, City of Perth)

The City of Perth and WAITOC have been working in partnership for over four years to create what is now known as the Aboriginal Tourism Academy. Aboriginal businesses are provided with tailored assistance, which has helped to grow the number of Aboriginal Tourism Businesses in the Perth region from four to 30 in this time.

There are many positive local economic and community impacts. WAITOC welcomes interested Local Governments to join the Cities of Perth, Kalamunda, South Perth and Wanneroo in this business mentoring program for Aboriginal tourism businesses.

<p>The University of Western Australia (UWA)</p>	<p>This Noongar co-led project has gathered archived information on Noongar biocultural values of the wetlands and waterways of the urban Canning River Catchment. A highly collaborative project, the Noongar community were then invited to interpret and weave together the information gathered.</p>
<p>Gathering Noongar water knowledge for the urban Djarlgarro Beeliar catchment</p>	<p>This presentation will outline the research and engagement process, and how the information could help Local Governments to manage and plan our lands and waters for positive and ethical socio-ecological outcomes.</p>
<p><i>Gail Barrow (Research Officer)</i></p>	
<p><i>Sharon Wood-Kenney (Research Officer)</i></p>	
<p><i>Cristina Ramalho (Research Fellow)</i></p>	
<p>Reconciliation WA, Kambarang Services and CSD Network</p>	<p>Take part in the movement for Reconciliation in Western Australia by joining the RAP READY forum. This session will deliver an extract of the recently launched forum, developed by Reconciliation WA.</p>
<p>Reconciliation WA's 'RAP Ready' forum</p>	
<p><i>Jody Nunn (Chief Executive Officer, Reconciliation WA)</i></p>	
<p><i>Rose Walley (Kambarang Services)</i></p>	
<p><i>Tim Muirhead (CSD Network)</i></p>	
<p>Department of the Premier and Cabinet</p>	<p>This presentation will provide an introduction to the State Government's Closing the Gap Implementation Plan and Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy, both of which were released in early September 2021. It will also address the role of Local Government in Closing the Gap.</p>
<p>Closing the Gap Implementation Strategy</p>	
<p><i>Nicolas Duff (Acting Assistant Director)</i></p>	
<p>Department of Communities</p>	<p>This presentation will focus on Aboriginal Cultural Learning Frameworks and community engagement. As a passionate and driven Aboriginal woman, Shahna believes that Asset Based Community development is the way forward for making positive changes. By working together and forming strong relationships based on trust, understanding and aspirations, we can deliver targets and actions that improve the outcomes for Aboriginal people and communities.</p>
<p>Engaging with long term purpose and programs that address systematic disadvantage in local communities</p>	
<p><i>Shahna Rind (Senior Consultant Aboriginal Learning and Development)</i></p>	

WALGA**ALGA Closing the Gap Implementation Plan****Susie Moir (Policy Manager Resilient Communities)**

This presentation will outline the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA's) Closing the Gap Implementation Plan, and opportunities for Local Government to contribute towards priority reform areas.

State Library of WA**Storylines Digital Archive: connecting communities, revitalising culture, creating opportunity***Elizabeth Spencer (Director Library Services and Development)**Denien Toomath, Indigenous Community Liaison Officer*

The State Library of Western Australia's *Storylines* Program connects with thousands of Western Australian Indigenous clients through a network of Public Libraries, Community Resource Centres (CRCs) and Aboriginal organisations across the State. Built on culturally relevant and accessible software developed for Aboriginal communities, it is a digital platform providing learning and access to heritage collections including photographs, oral histories, audio recordings, video recordings, and genealogical information.

Growing out of the State Library's long and reciprocal relationships with Indigenous communities, *Storylines* enables the State Library to facilitate the protection, collection, and return of Aboriginal heritage collections to individuals, families and communities. It is proving to be a driver of change, stimulating creative practice, fostering tourism enterprise, harnessing multi-generational engagement, as well as creating new skills while preserving culture, language and history. As a State wide resource *Storylines* creates a forum for Indigenous Western Australians to explore their diverse histories, and to tell their own story.

This presentation will share information about how the platform contributes to ensuring that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and languages are strong, supported and flourishing.

City of Canning**Working and walking together: Stories from developing relationships, delivering programs and ongoing connection with community***Carley Robbins (Community Development Officer)*

The City of Canning has been working closely with local Aboriginal organisations. This presentation will cover how we have worked and walked together, and some of the community programs, events and connections that have resulted from strong relationships between the City and community organisations.