



Shire of Northam
Heritage, Commerce and Lifestyle

Shire of Northam

Minutes

Nyoongar Cultural Advisory

Group Meeting

4 May 2021



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10.	DECLARATION OF CLOSURE	30

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Member Cr. M P Ryan declared the meeting open at 3:21pm.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

The Shire of Northam would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet, the Ballardong and Whadjuk people of the Nyoongar nation and pay our respects to Elders, past present and emerging.

3. ATTENDANCE

Committee:

Shire President	Cr C R Antonio
Councillors	M P Ryan
Davis Family	Kathy Davis
Ryder Family	Joan Parfitt
McGuire Family	Deborah Moody
Kickett Family	Boyd Kickett
ATSI Representative	Yvonne Kickett
Stack Family	Elizabeth Stack arrived at 3:46pm

Staff:

CEO	Jason Whiteaker
Exec. Manager Community Services	Jo Metcalf
BKB Centre Coordinator	Kirk Garlett
BKB Centre Coordinator	Robyn Davis
Community Development Officer	Jaime Hawkins

Guest:

WA Police, A/Superintendent	J Lee
WA Police, A/Senior Sergeant	J Parker

3.1 APOLOGIES

Stack Family	Kate Stack
ATSI Representative	Brenda DeAtta

3.2 APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

3.3 ABSENT

Councillor	A J Mencshelyi
Davis Family	Jermaine Davis
Moody Family	Donna Moody

McGuire Family
Slater Family

Maria Nickels
Agnes Lockyer

Cr Ryan left the meeting at 3.23. Cr Antonio took over as Chair.

Minute silence observed for death in the Ballardong Community at 3.24

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

Cr Ryan returned to the meeting 3.26 and resumed as Chair.

5. RECEIVING OF PETITIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

5.1 BETTERLINK GROUP

Paul Morgan from the Betterlink Group was unable to attend the meeting so BKB Coordinators, Ms Robyn Davis and Kirk Garlett informed the committee of the Betterlink Aboriginal Business Leadership Group on his behalf.

Betterlink are fully funded through the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development to run an Aboriginal Business Leadership Program in the Wheatbelt. The program is eligible to all Aboriginal People who have a business or are looking at starting a business in the Wheatbelt. The program will provide existing and emerging Aboriginal business people with training in all topics related to running a business, tailored to the participants needs.

Betterlink are planning to run an introductory workshop in Northam at the BKB. Ms Davis informed the committee that to run the workshop they require 15 participants and they have received expressions of interest from 18 people, so this workshop can now be scheduled.

Ms Davis and Mr Garlett are to receive training from Betterlink so they can run workshops and will be available to support emerging businesses in the community with their immediate needs.

Cr. Ryan stated that participating businesses should also be encouraged to link with the Northam Chamber of Commerce.

5.2 WA POLICE RAP CONSULTATION PROCESS

WA Police A/Superintendent J Lee presented the proposed consultation schedule for the WA Police Innovate RAP.

The consultation process will be led the WA Police Aboriginal Affairs division. The Innovate RAP will be co-designed with input from Police and the Community. The aim of the consultation is to find out what Aboriginal people expect from the Police.

Wheatbelt District consultation will occur,

- 1 June in Moora
- 7 June in Merredin
- 8 June in Northam at the BKB.

Times are to be confirmed and the committee will be notified.

Ms Jo Metcalf queried if this was a state wide WA Police RAP or specific to this region. A/Superintendent Lee stated that it will be individualised for each area.

Attachment 1



Aboriginal Business Leadership Program



Do you want support to develop and grow your business?

The Aboriginal Business Leadership Program (ABLP) will assist local businesses to develop and grow through a tailored approach. This fully funded program is open to all Aboriginal people who have an established or emerging business in the Wheatbelt region. The program will commence from February 2021 with initial consultation, marketing and recruitment of participants.

Based on the participant training needs, the program may include topics such as:

- Understanding business financials and contractual obligations
- Building your leadership skills and networks
- Accessing training and mentoring support
- Know your staff employment responsibilities
- Developing clear business planning through identifying your business challenges and opportunities

The program is being delivered by Paul Morgan from Betterlink Group who has experience in designing and facilitating successful ABLP regional business development programs. He will work closely with participants to identify and develop program topics and active learning workshops. Paul may be contacted on (08) 9353 3089 or 0405 702 123.

Participants may also gain Statements of Attainment for units from a nationally accredited Leadership and Management qualification.



For information or to register, contact Paul Morgan on 0405 702 123 or email paul.morgan@betterlinkgroup.edu.au or visit www.betterlinkgroup.edu.au

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 FEBRUARY 2021

RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Minute No: NCAG. 24

Moved: Ms Kathy Davis

Seconded: Mrs Deborah Moody

That the minutes of the Nyoongar Cultural Advisory Group meeting held on 9 February 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting with the date on the Minutes cover page to be corrected.

CARRIED 8/0

Ms Kathy Davis asked for clarification as the date on the minutes cover page stated 2 February 2021. Ms Jaime Hawkins informed that was an error and it will be corrected. The correct date was stated throughout the rest of the minutes.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 BILYA KOORT BOODJA UPDATE

File Reference:	1.3.13.5
Reporting Officer:	Jason Whiteaker, CEO
Responsible Officer:	Jason Whiteaker, CEO
Officer Declaration of Interest:	Nil.
Voting Requirement:	Simple Majority
Press release to be issued:	Nil.

BRIEF

For the Committee to receive an update on the Bilya Koort Boodja Centre.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

A. BACKGROUND / DETAILS

The Bilya Koort Boodja is the Aboriginal Interpretive Centre in the Shire of Northam, offering visitors a visual and immersive experience into Aboriginal culture, heritage and traditions through various displays and events.

A.1 Visitor Numbers

Month	BKB visitations - Normal	BKB Visitations - Free Pass	BKB Visitations - Concession	BKB Visitations - Average per day	BKB Entry Fees
Aug-20	231	0	179	13.22	3,205
Sep 20	187	0	287	15.8	3,305
Oct 20	217	0	370	18.93	4,020
Nov 20	170	1	167	10.90	2,535
Dec 20	170	1	38	4.58	1,220
Jan 21	192	0	46	7.67	2,150
Feb 21	91	2	94		1,380
Mar 21	113	1	327		2,765
Apr 21	159	0	45		1,815
May 21					
Jun 21					

A.2 Programmed Activities

Date	Activity	Attended
5-7 th April 2021	Djeran Holiday Program	19
12-14 April 2021	Djeran Holiday Program	21
9 -10 th April	Emu in the Sky Mosaic Art Project	8

Upcoming Programs;

Didgeridoo Workshops
Art Workshops
Kambarang Festival
Astro Tourism – Star Gazing

Ms Robyn Davis and Mr Kirk Garlett will provide an update on planned activities for the Bilya Koort Boodja Centre.

A.3 Marketing

An update to be provided by Ms Jo Metcalf.
Council recently committed a further \$15,000 to boost BKB promotions.

B. CONSIDERATIONS

B.1 Strategic Community / Corporate Business Plan

Theme Area 4: Environment and Heritage.
Outcome 4.2: Northam honours, and is recognised for, its unique heritage and cultural identity.
Objective: There is a strong, respected and valued Aboriginal community and culture in the Shire of Northam.

B.2 Financial / Resource Implications

B.3 Legislative Compliance

Nil.

B.4 Policy Implications

Nil.

B.5 Stakeholder Engagement / Consultation

Nil.

B.6 Risk Implications

Risk Category	Description	Rating (likelihood x consequence)	Mitigation Action
Financial	The Centre fails to reach financial sustainability	Possible (3) x Medium (3)= 9 (Medium)	Development of marketing plan to promote centre Secure external funding
Health & Safety	N/A		
Reputation	The Centre fails to provide an experience that delivers expectation	Possible (3) x Medium (3)= 9 (Medium)	Ensure weekend activities are in place
Service Interruption	N/A		
Compliance	N/A		
Property	N/A		
Environment	N/A		

C. OFFICER'S COMMENT

There have been a number of visitor groups to the Centre in March and April meeting, including:

- Amaga WA – Workshop 12 attendees and tour of the centre
- CSBP – 14 people tour of the centre
- Rural Health West - 212 people - Tour of the Centre
- Childow Primary School – 116 Students Tour of the Centre, Bush tucker workshop, Cultural dance workshop
- Rotary Club – 35 people, Tour of the centre, storytelling
- Fusion – 15 People – Tour of the Centre
- South Coogee – 48 Teachers – Tour of the Centre, Storytelling, Didgeridoo playing
- South West Development Commission – 4 people – Tour of Centre

OneIT have handed over the online shop, staff have updated the Online Shop with all BKB merchandise ready for the launch.

RECOMMENDATION / COMMITTEE DECISION

Minute No: NCAG.25

Moved: Cr Chris Antonio

Seconded: Mrs Deborah

That Council receives the Bilya Koort Boodja update as presented.

CARRIED 8/0

Further details were provided on plans for upcoming workshops by the BKB Coordinators. Ms Robyn Davis explained that they are working on a 3-year plan of activation for the BKB.

Didgeridoo Workshops will be a course primarily aimed at young men/teen boys where they will be taught how to make didgeridoos through to playing them with on country experiences.

Art Workshops will be an introductory level art class. The BKB are working with Mental Health to develop this program. In future years it is planned to offer advanced level classes to those who have progressed from the introductory level.

Kambarang Festival is still in the early planning phase. It will focus on Spring and nature. Cr. Ryan asked if this will be something unique to Northam, with Ms Davis responding that yes, it is.

Astro Tourism – Star Gazing – there will be a star gazing event in Grass Valley on 6 June 2021 and the BKB is developing a program to complement this event. Prior to going to Grass Valley for the star gazing there will be stew and damper cooked in the BKB firepit. The Emu in the Sky Mosaic will be presented at this event. Ms Robyn Davis asked the committee if they could recommend someone who knew local Aboriginal star gazing stories to talk at the event. Mrs Joan Parfit suggested her son.

Ms Jo Metcalf presented the marketing initiatives of the BKB, which involves a mixed approach incorporating print advertising, signage, social media and video marketing clips. The first focus is to activate the centre so there is something to market. BKB activation is being aligned with other events occurring in town, such as the Avon Descent. The BKB will be marketed along with other offerings in town, such as the murals.

Cr Ryan queried the progress of the BKB online shop. Ms Robyn Davis stated that all products have been uploaded and they are waiting for a launch date which is expected within the next few weeks.

7.2 RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN (RAP) UPDATE

File Reference:	2.1.3.7
Reporting Officer:	Jaime Hawkins, Community Development Officer
Responsible Officer:	Jo Metcalf, Executive Manager Community Services
Officer Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirement:	Simple Majority
Press release to be issued:	Nil

BRIEF

For the Community Development Officer to present an update on the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to the Committee.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 2: Shire of Northam Reflect RAP 2020-2021 Updated Actions (to be sent as separate attachment)

A. BACKGROUND / DETAILS

The Shire of Northam Reflect RAP was developed by the previous RAP Working Group and was endorsed by Reconciliation Australia in 2019.

A RAP is a strategic document that supports an organisation's business plan. It includes practical actions that will drive an organisation's contribution to reconciliation both internally and in the communities in which it operates. There are four stages of a RAP, reflect, innovate, stretch and elevate. The Shire of Northam is at the first reflect stage.

A Reflect RAP is primarily a scoping document. The Reflect RAP clearly sets out the steps the Shire should take to prepare for reconciliation initiatives in successive RAPs. Committing to a Reflect RAP allows the Shire to spend time scoping and developing relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, deciding on our vision for reconciliation and exploring your sphere of influence, before committing to specific actions or initiatives. This process will help to produce future RAPs that are meaningful, mutually beneficial and sustainable.

The Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) June 2020-June 2021 has been included as an attachment in this agenda.

B. CONSIDERATIONS

B.1 Strategic Community / Corporate Business Plan

Theme Area 4: Environment and Heritage
 Outcome 4.2: Northam honours, and is recognised for, its unique heritage and cultural identity
 Objective: There is a strong, respected and valued Aboriginal community and culture in the Shire of Northam

B.2 Financial / Resource Implications

Nil.

B.3 Legislative Compliance

Nil.

B.4 Policy Implications

Nil.

B.5 Stakeholder Engagement / Consultation

The previous RAP Working Group were consulted in developing the Shire's RAP.

B.6 Risk Implications

Risk Category	Description	Rating (likelihood x consequence)	Mitigation Action
Financial	N/A		
Health & Safety	N/A		
Reputation	Shire of Northam is seen as not supportive of reconciliation	Unlikely(2) x Minor(2) = Low (4)	Shire develops RAP in consultation with RAP Working group and endorsement of Reconciliation Australia
Service Interruption	N/A		
Compliance	N/A		
Property	N/A		
Environment	N/A		

C. OFFICER'S COMMENT

The attached spreadsheet highlights the current progress of the RAP. The Shire is working towards completing the final actions of the Reflect RAP before the plan expires in June. Outstanding actions remain in the areas of Human Resources and Procurement. The relevant Shire Officers are working on the

completion of these actions. The finalisation of National Reconciliation Week activities at this meeting will mean the RAP can be completed.

The Shire will then be moving on to the second stage in our reconciliation journey by developing an Innovate RAP in consultation with this committee. This process will be led by BKB Coordinators.

An Innovate RAP outlines actions that work towards achieving your organisation's unique vision for reconciliation. Commitments within this RAP allow your organisation to be aspirational and innovative in order to help your organisation to gain a deeper understanding of its sphere of influence, and establish the best approach to advance reconciliation. An Innovate RAP focuses on developing and strengthening relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, engaging staff and stakeholders in reconciliation, developing and piloting innovative strategies to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute No: NCAG. 26

Moved: Mrs Joan Parfitt

Seconded: Ms Elizabeth Stack

That Council accepts the update of the Shire of Northam Reflect RAP 2020-2021.

CARRIED 8/0

Attachment 2

Task Name	Actual Start Date	Actual Finish Date	%Complete	Status	Comments
Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) June 2020 - June 2021			25%	In Progress	
Action 1 - Continue to develop the RAP Working Group			99%	In Progress	
1.1 Ensure Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples are always represented on the RAP Working Group	01/07/20		75%	In Progress	Ongoing
1.2 The RAP Working Group oversees the development, endorsement and implementation of the RAP	01/07/20		75%	In Progress	Ongoing
1.3 The RAP Working Group meets a minimum of twice per year to monitor the implementation of the RAP	15/09/20		75%	In Progress	Exceeded meeting requirements
1.4 Ensure membership of the RAP Working Group and the RAP Working Group Terms of Reference are reviewed in line with all Committees of Council	27/04/21	27/04/21	100%	Complete	Reviewed Terms of Reference of the NCAG and confirmed they are in line with TOR for Committee's of Council. Need to include payment of ATSI committee members. Next review of TOR due following local government elections in October 2021.
Action 2 - Build internal & external relationships			88%	In Progress	
2.1 Identify and develop a list of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Elders, people, communities and organisations within the Shire of Northam or sphere of influence that we could approach to connect with on our reconciliation journey	17/11/20		75%	In Progress	Connected with WA Police Wheatbelt District, and Central Regional Tafe. Working Northam Chamber of Commerce to identify businesses with or interested in developing a RAP.
2.2 Develop a list of RAP organisations and other like-minded organisations that we could approach to connect with on our reconciliation journey	17/11/20	28/04/21	100%	Complete	Other local governments with RAP's identified. All are larger cities, mostly metropolitan, no others within Wheatbelt. Govt. departments with Reflect RAP's include WA Police, CR Tafe & Dept. Primary Industries & Regional Development.
Action 3 - Participate in and celebrate National Reconciliation Week (NRW)			2%	In Progress	
3.1 Support and/or deliver an annual NRW event in collaboration with the local Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander community	31/03/21		15%	In Progress	Theme announced "Reconciliation Takes Action". To liaise with NCAG regarding an event
3.2 Register Shire of Northam NRW events on Reconciliation Australia's NRW website				Not Started	Will be completed once event finalised
3.3 Encourage Shire of Northam Councillors and staff to attend NRW events				Not Started	Will be completed once event finalised
3.4 Distribute and promote NRW fact sheets and other resources to Councillors, Staff and the wider community				Not Started	To occur during NRW 2021
3.5 Ensure out RAP Working Group participates in an external event to recognise and celebrate NRW				Not Started	To occur during NRW 2021
Action 4 - Raise internal awareness of Council's RAP			75%	In Progress	

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4.1 Ensure that all employees have an understanding of the Council's RAP commitment and how each department can contribute			75%	In Progress	Ongoing.
4.2 Develop and implement a plan to engage and inform key internal stakeholders of their responsibilities within our RAP	03/09/20		75%	In Progress	Smartsheet being used to track RAP
Action 5 - Promote positive race relations through anti-discrimination strategies				Not Started	
5.1 Research best practice and policies in areas of race relations and anti-discrimination				Not Started	
5.2 Conduct a review of HR policies and procedures to identify existing anti-discrimination provisions, and future needs				Not Started	
Action 6 - Investigate Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultural learning and development for Council				Not Started	
6.1 Capture data and measure our staff's current level of knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and achievements				Not Started	
6.2 Conduct a review of cultural awareness training needs within the Shire of Northam				Not Started	
6.3 Develop a project plan for increasing staff's knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and achievements				Not Started	
Action 7 - Participate in and celebrate NAIDOC week			100%	Complete	
7.1 Raise awareness and share information amongst Councillors, Staff and the wider community about the meaning of NAIDOC week	05/11/20	24/11/20	100%	Complete	Information was promoted about NAIDOC Week and community event held with many external stakeholders participating
7.2 Encourage Councillors and staff to participate in local NAIDOC Week events	05/11/20	24/11/20	100%	Complete	Staff & Councillors attended NAIDOC Week event at the BKB. An invite was sent to all staff
7.3 Support and/or deliver a local NAIDOC Week event	24/11/20	24/11/20	100%	Complete	NAIDOC Week event hosted at the BKB
7.4 Ensure the RAP Working Group participates in an external NAIDOC Week event	08/11/20	15/01/21	100%	Complete	NAIDOC Week event hosted at the BKB. Members of the RAP Working Group attended & participated
Action 8 - Raise internal understanding of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols			67%	In Progress	
8.1 Identify and develop a list of local Traditional Owners of land and water within the Shire of Northam	17/11/20		25%	In Progress	
8.2 Identify and develop a list of respected local Elders who can perform Welcome to Country for the Shire of Northam	17/11/20	21/01/21	100%	Complete	The following identified at meeting on 17/11/20: Paul Parfitt; Deborah Moody; Patricia Davis; Maria Nickels; Julie Wynne - Moody; Tanya McKiwa; Shirely Slater; Frank Davis
8.3 Raise awareness of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols for Council and Staff, including understanding the meaning and significance of Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country	17/11/20		75%	In Progress	Acknowledgement of Country introduced to Council meetings. Councillors & staff to be informed of the meaning and significance.
Action 9 - Publicly acknowledge and celebrate Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and achievements			94%	In Progress	

9.1 Investigate the opportunity for Council to explore ways of appropriately acknowledging Traditional Owners of the local area, including Acknowledgement of Country in all meetings of Council, displaying an Acknowledgement in Council buildings, Council signage, and employee email signatures, etc.

17/11/20		75%	In Progress
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Acknowledgement of Country introduced to Council meetings. Opportunity to have written acknowledgement on staff email signatures and Shire website.

9.2 Investigate flying the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander flags at Administration and other Council buildings

21/01/21	21/01/21	100%	Complete
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Additional flag pole required to fly Aboriginal flag at Administration Building. Other potential Council buildings where the flag could be flown are the Northam Recreation Centre (have flags, but poles require repair); Northam Library (flag poles required); Northam Shire Depot (flag poles required); Killara (flag poles required); Wundowie Library. The flags are currently flown outside the BKB Centre.

9.3 Investigate opportunities for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander artworks to be displayed in Council facilities and to be commissioned as public art works

01/07/20	21/01/21	100%	Complete
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Opportunities to display several Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander artworks in several Shire building and public art installations, such as murals. An Aboriginal themed mural is being investigated for the Northam Recreation Centre. Shire only has 3 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander artworks in it's collection. These are displayed at the BKB and Create 298.



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9.4 In consultation with local Traditional Owners, investigate the opportunity to incorporate dual naming, with the English and Nyoongar name to be printed on signage at significant landmarks	01/07/20	09/02/21	100%	Complete	At meeting on 17/11/20 potential for dual naming was identified for the Avon River and Northam Town site signage. NCAG provided further input into potential landmarks for dual naming at meeting on 9/2/21 and a working group developed comprising of Ms Elizabeth Stack, Mrs Deborah Moody and Mr Krik Garlett was established to identify the names of places identified.
Action 10 - Investigate opportunities for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander employment and retention within Council				Not Started	
10.1 Capture baseline data on Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander employment & retention within the Shire of Northam to inform future employment				Not Started	
10.2 Investigate Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander employment pathways for people to seek employment, traineeships and work experience within the Shire of Northam				Not Started	
10.3 Develop a plan to increase Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander employment within the Shire of Northam				Not Started	
Action 11 - Investigate Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander supplier diversity				Not Started	
11.1 Develop an understanding of the mutual benefits of procurement from Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander owned businesses				Not Started	
11.2 Review Council's Procurement Policy to ensure that there are no barriers for procuring goods and services from Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander businesses				Not Started	
11.3 Promote Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander business development within the Shire of Northam				Not Started	
11.4 Support and/or create opportunities for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander business development within the Shire of Northam				Not Started	
11.5 Develop a business case for procurement from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses				Not Started	
Action 12 - Build Support for Council's RAP			38%	In Progress	
12.1 Define resource needs for RAP development and implementation				Not Started	
12.2 Define systems and capability needs to track, measure and report on RAP activities	03/08/20		75%	In Progress	Tracking and reporting on RAP via Smartsheet program recently implemented by Council. The system appears to be working well.
12.3 Complete the annual RAP Impact Measurement				Not Started	
12.4 Include information on the implementation of the RAP in Council's annual report	30/09/20		75%	In Progress	Information on progress of RAP included in 2019/2020 Annual Report. Update on completion of Reflect RAP will be included in 2020/2021 Annual Report
Action 13 - Review and Refresh RAP			24%	In Progress	
13.1 Review the progress of the RAP with the RAP Working Group	15/09/20		75%	In Progress	Ongoing at NCAG meetings
13.2 Draft and refresh a new RAP for the Shire of Northam based learning, achievements and challenges experienced in the previous RAP			0%	Not Started	Process to commence with BKB Coordinators
13.3 Submit draft of new RAP to Reconciliation Australia				Not Started	

7.3 PLANNING FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK EVENT 27 MAY – 3 JUNE 2021

File Reference:	2.1.3.7
Reporting Officer:	Jaime Hawkins, Community Development Officer
Responsible Officer:	Jo Metcalf, Executive Manager Community Services
Officer Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirement:	Simple Majority
Press release to be issued:	Nil

BRIEF

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. National Reconciliation Week is from 27th May to the 3rd June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively. The theme for Reconciliation Week 2021 is “Reconciliation Takes Action”

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: NRW theme information

A. BACKGROUND / DETAILS

In 2018 the Shire of Northam hosted an inaugural Reconciliation Week event, being a Reconciliation Community Morning Tea at the Village Green in the heart of the Northam CBD. In 2019 the RAP Working Group led a community march along the river from the Northam Town Library to the BKB Centre for a BBQ morning tea. Both events were very successful and well attended by a broad cross section of the community. Covid restrictions meant that a commemorative gathering could not be held in 2020, however online reconciliation posts and messages were delivered to the community via our local social media pages.

Acknowledging and participating in National Reconciliation Week is a mandatory action of the Shire of Northam Reflect RAP.

The RAP Working Group is to consider planning for an event to commemorate Reconciliation Week 2021.

B. CONSIDERATIONS

B.1 Strategic Community / Corporate Business Plan

Theme Area 4: Environment and Heritage
 Outcome 4.2: Northam honours, and is recognised for, its unique heritage and cultural identity
 Objective: There is a strong, respected and valued Aboriginal community and culture in the Shire of Northam

B.2 Financial / Resource Implications

There is a small financial and resource implication to undertake activities relating to Reconciliation Week.

B.3 Legislative Compliance

Nil.

B.4 Policy Implications

Nil.

B.5 Stakeholder Engagement / Consultation

The previous RAP Working Group are being consulted about planning a NRW event.

B.6 Risk Implications

Risk Category	Description	Rating (likelihood x consequence)	Mitigation Action
Financial			
Health & Safety	N/A		
Reputation	Shire of Northam is seen as not supportive of reconciliation	Unlikely(2) x Minor(2) = Low (4)	Shire develops RAP in consultation with RAP Working group and endorsement of Reconciliation Australia
Service Interruption	N/A		
Compliance	N/A		
Property	N/A		
Environment	N/A		

C. OFFICER'S COMMENT

To commemorate National Reconciliation Week 2021, it is proposed that the Shire of Northam in conjunction with the Nyoongar Cultural Advisory Group host a community celebration on Friday 28 May 2021. The event will include:

- Reconciliation March following the Avon River from the Library carpark, via the BKB and on to the Village Green.
- Welcome to Country performed on the Village Green.
- Official address by the Shire President and representative of the NCAG.
- Sea of Hands on the lawn of the Village Green. Shire, government officials, school students, local business and the wider community will all be invited to participate by placing a hand with a reconciliation message at the Village Green. The hands will remain for the day and photographed for a visual record.
- Free community sausage sizzle.



Image of Sea of Hands

RECOMMENDATION / COUNCIL DECISION

Minute No: NCAG. 27

Moved: Mrs Joan Parfitt

Seconded: Mrs Deborah Moody

That Council accepts the plans for a 2021 National Reconciliation Week march and community event to be held on Friday 28 May 2021.

CARRIED 8/0

Ms Kathy Davis stated it would be preferred to close the road and march down the main street with a Police escort as used to happen in the old days. Ms Hawkins explained that requirements for closing the road have now changed and it is more complicated, costly and we do not have enough time to organise this for this years event, however it can be investigated for next years Reconciliation Week.

Cr Antonio requested we look at hiring the temporary flag poles for the flying of the flags at the Village Green as this was a powerful display when it occurred previously.

Attachment 2



MORE THAN A WORD. RECONCILIATION TAKES ACTION

The 2021 National Reconciliation Week theme, *More than a word. Reconciliation takes action*, urges the reconciliation movement towards braver and more impactful action.

MOVING FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION

The Reconciliation movement is at a tipping point: In the past year, with Black Lives Matter protests and huge numbers at Invasion Day rallies across the country, we're seeing people are understanding the truth and speaking up on issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

More than a word. Reconciliation takes action asks people to take this awareness and knowledge, and use it as springboard to more substantive, brave action.

For reconciliation to be effective, it must involve truth-telling, and actively address issues of inequality, systemic racism and instances where the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are ignored, denied or reduced.

While we see greater support for reconciliation from the Australian people than ever before, we must be more determined than ever if we are to achieve the goals of the movement — a just, equitable, reconciled Australia.

As history tells us, this will only happen through continued and concerted action from those who are already part of the reconciliation movement to those who are yet to join.

Moving towards a braver reconciliation requires a vision for what a just equitable and reconciled Australia looks like.

Actions—guided by the five dimensions of reconciliation—are recommended in the [2021 State of Reconciliation in Australia](#) Report.

7.4 BILYA KOORT BOODJA STAGE 2 ELECTION COMMITMENT

File Reference:	1.3.12.5
Reporting Officer:	Jaime Hawkins, Community Development Officer
Responsible Officer:	Jo Metcalf, Executive Manager Community Services
Officer Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirement:	Simple Majority
Press release to be issued:	Nil

BRIEF

For the Committee to be informed of the election commitment made by the WA Labor Party for Stage 2 developments at the Bilya Koort Boodja Centre.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

A. BACKGROUND / DETAILS

The Bilya Koort Boodja Centre for Nyoongar Culture & Environmental Knowledge was officially opened in August 2018, following years of planning and development from the Shire of Northam and the local Ballardong Nyoongar community. The Centre was a partnership project involving the Shire of Northam, the Northam Aboriginal Community, Australian Federal Government, Lotterywest and the WA Government. The total cost of the development of the BKB Centre was approximately \$6 million.

During the WA State Election, the WA Labor Government pledged to support the BKB Centre with a further \$150,000 for the development of Stage 2 projects.

B. CONSIDERATIONS

B.1 Strategic Community / Corporate Business Plan

Theme Area 4: Environment and Heritage
Outcome 4.2: Northam honours, and is recognised for, its unique heritage and cultural identity
Objective: There is a strong, respected and valued Aboriginal community and culture in the Shire of Northam

B.2 Financial / Resource Implications

Nil.

B.3 Legislative Compliance

Nil.

B.4 Policy Implications

Nil.

B.5 Stakeholder Engagement / Consultation

The Ballardong Nyoongar people were widely consulted during the planning and development of the BKB.

B.6 Risk Implications

Risk Category	Description	Rating (likelihood x consequence)	Mitigation Action
Financial	N/A		
Health & Safety	N/A		
Reputation	N/A		
Service Interruption	N/A		
Compliance	N/A		
Property	N/A		
Environment	N/A		

C. OFFICER'S COMMENT

The Shire of Northam is pleased to inform the Committee that the WA Labor Government has pledged an additional \$150,000 to the Bilya Koort Boodja Centre as a 2021 State Election Commitment.

The Shire of Northam is currently seeking further information from Darren West MLC about the conditions of this commitment and associated timeframe.

Options for Stage 2 include additional digital components that were outside of the scope during phase 1 and further development of the curatorial content, including capturing more stories and knowledge from the Ballardong people.

7.5 UPDATE ON DUAL NAMING WORKING GROUP

File Reference:	2.1.3.7
Reporting Officer:	Jaime Hawkins, Community Development Officer
Responsible Officer:	Jo Metcalf, Executive Manager Community Services
Officer Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Voting Requirement:	Simple Majority
Press release to be issued:	Nil

BRIEF

To provide the committee with an update on the Dual Naming Working Group formed at the meeting 9 February 2021.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

A. BACKGROUND / DETAILS

At the meeting on 9 February 2021 the Committee recommended that a working group comprising of Ms Elizabeth Stack, Ms Deborah Moody and Mr Kirk Garlett be formed to identify the names of places for dual naming.

B. CONSIDERATIONS

B.1 Strategic Community / Corporate Business Plan

Theme Area 4: Environment and Heritage

Outcome 4.2: Northam honours, and is recognised for, its unique heritage and cultural identity

Objective: There is a strong, respected and valued Aboriginal community and culture in the Shire of Northam

B.2 Financial / Resource Implications

Nil

B.3 Legislative Compliance

Nil.

B.4 Policy Implications

Nil.

B.5 Stakeholder Engagement / Consultation

The NCAG were consulted about forming a working group at the meeting on 9 February 2021.

B.6 Risk Implications

Risk Category	Description	Rating (likelihood x consequence)	Mitigation Action
Financial			
Health & Safety	N/A		
Reputation	The names identified are controversial and not agreed upon.	Unlikely(2) x Minor(2) = Low (4)	The working group engage in a thorough research and consultation process prior to any official decisions being made.
Service Interruption	N/A		
Compliance	N/A		
Property	N/A		
Environment	N/A		

C. OFFICER'S COMMENT

The working group for language and dual naming are yet to meet.

Since the previous meeting Mr Kirk Garlett has been appointed as one of the Co-ordinators of the BKB Centre. Within this role, Kirk will drive this new working group.

The Committee's input is sought over the engagement of an external consultant such as Professor Len Collard to assist with the project.

DISCUSSION

Ms Jo Metcalf suggested that she can contact Professor Len Collard to work with our language group, as he has lots of experience in the dual naming projects. Assisting them will also be beneficial to his research into Nyoongar languages.

Mr Kirk Garlett stated he believes they can do it themselves and should hold their first working group meeting first.

8. URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY DECISION

Nil

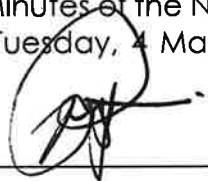
9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6 July 2021, 3.30pm.

10. DECLARATION OF CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Presiding Member Cr M P Ryan declared the meeting closed at 4:40pm.

"I certify that the Minutes of the Nyoongar Cultural Advisory Group Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 4 May 2021 have been confirmed as a true and correct record."



Presiding Member

6/4/2022 Date

