



Ngarrindjeri
Regional Authority

**Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority
Annual Report 2016**







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Foreword

This Annual Report covers the period 11th December 2015 until 30th November 2016 and provides an overview of the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authorities Activities during that time.

The vision and commitment of Ngarrindjeri community, including Elders past and present is unquestionable and is acknowledged and respected as such.

The Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority continues to advocate on behalf of all NRA Members and Ngarrindjeri Country by "Speaking as Country" at the Local, Regional, State, National and International levels.





Fulton Hogan Partnership - Signing of Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnan Agreement

22nd June 2016

Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority signed the first Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnan Agreement (KNYA) ('Listening to Ngarrindjeri People Talking') with a corporate partner - Fulton Hogan. This signing is a recognition and formalisation of the ongoing partnership between Fulton Hogan and the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority, to achieving the aspirations of the Ngarrindjeri people.





Achievements at a Glance

- KNY Signing with Fulton-Hogan
- Signing of Commonwealth Environmental Water
- Continued relationship building with our ministers
- Continued partnership with Jawun
- South-East Flows project
- Wild Eats project





NRA Chairperson Report



Eunice Aston
Chairperson
Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority
2016.

Nunku Karlo Ngraku Thekinar Yam

Good day everyone

Nganane Mitji-el Eunitji, Napi Aston, Napi Sumner, Napi Rankine, Napi Dodd, Napi Cameron

My name is Eunice Aston, my bloodlines are Sumner, Dodd, Rankine and Cameron

Nganawe Laklanjeri-el Tempurumindjeri Milmendjeri Tanangald

I acknowledge my clan groups - Tempurumindjeri Milmendjeri Tanangald of the Ngarrindjeri Nation

It is important for me to acknowledge our Elders past and present because they are the ones who have paved the way forward for us Ngarrindjeri and non-Ngarrindjeri here on our country.

The vision for Ngarrindjeri is one of inspiration, safety, sharing, having fun, and respect as well as encouraging achievement.





This year has been a very challenging year for us all. As Chairperson I have had the privilege of working alongside a group of visionary people (the NRA Board members, NRC, RPPU, and Shaun Berg Lawyers) who are loyal and committed to our shared vision.

We have worked tirelessly to find a better way of implementing plans and projects within the scope of the NRA.

As the first Ngarrindjeri woman of the NRA, I felt excited about being the first female to chair the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority. I became chair because I wanted to be more inclusive of the Ngarrindjeri people, to drive a clearer direction, transparency and provide more opportunities for females to become more active in this space and to build respect for Ngarrindjeri women as part of the Ngarrindjeri leadership. I wanted to be more inclusive, bring everyone together and to encourage others to become more actively involved.

Many were supportive but there is still plenty of work to be done. The more involved I was with the NRA, the more I realised that there is plenty of work being done and documented but that they were fragmented and the vision became to bring it all into one place at the NRA. The idea of transparency was that we had to work in teams, the NRA, the NRC, the RPPU team.

The constitution talks about building the capacity of the member organisations and although the NRA talks about maintaining our lands and waters, it is about more than that. It is about maintaining our culture and to remind everyone that this is what we do as a culture. We need to look after our traditions, our customs and beliefs, our spiritual knowledge, our economy and how we manage our resources and also to look at everything in our Nation from the four directions and how we build the Nation.

We have moved forward and we have built the capacity of the nation. We have been able to employ more people through Fulton Hogan, sign the agreement with the water holders, build our relationship with the ministers and establish ground rules with dealing with a female chair.

With this role, there were expectations of the chair and those expectations were around males. It has been different and there have been challenges for others working with the new board and the new system. We have built the organisation in terms of policies, contracts, worked alongside Jawun to enable skill transfers, worked on South-East Flows and Wild Eats. We also have a continued responsibility over maintaining our lands and waters.

Our vision remains the same, our Vision for Country, the KNY and we continue to work with local governments that yet to sign off and get them on board and we want to move along with Native Title. The NRA projects of Nation building and Strategic planning are ongoing.





The goal is to “Work together for a strong, healthy and sovereign nation,” and as chair, I always think about healthy lands and waters and healthy people.

A quote from Ngarrindjeri Elder - Victor Wilson is that “[One should] look at what is happening behind us, what is happening now and what is beginning for the future.” This gives us direction, what we need to focus and we work on and to build on the foundation of the past. This foundation of the past is our culture and our responsibilities to look after our country and our people. To preserve and protect and to teach our young people what to build on so they have something to move forward – **“to build a healthier and brighter future for generations to come”** – but also a solid foundation and to inspire future generations to be resilient and to be able to adapt. So however the world changes, they are able to maintain that and build towards the future.

“When I go to sleep at night, the very last thing on my mind is my community and how to build the capacity of the people. When I wake up, it is the health of the community, how to build the capacity of my people, the community, the lands and waters and I truly believe that we can do this through the NRA, to build capacity of our teams, our people and our Nation. This is not to have everything come under one roof but to build the capacity of different organisations and their members”.

When I took on the position of Chair, there was something missing, we had to broaden our view and our scope, and to strengthen the concepts in a person’s life of what they value, strive towards and believe in. The focus is on the goals for generations to come and to have a more holistic view. We have been able to stay focussed on the nation, maintain the workforce and build the capacity of the organisation.

From the first time I became the chair, I had the realisation of the strength of that position and the strength and sight needed across the Nation. I needed to have the ability to listen to everybody because there was so much grief in the Nation, much that was unsaid and the silence of uncertainty. It is important to acknowledge that we have been able to break through some of this.

We need to ask ourselves, how do we encourage our young people to finish school, how do we maintain housing and jobs, how do we employ as many Ngarrindjeri and also non-Ngarrindjeri people, how do we encourage others to prioritise the health of themselves and their families. How are we as the NRA going to set the precedent, the rules, the boundaries and to help the people through this process. Our people are the most important and then the land. We are responsible to look after the land, promote education, to instil in our children a strong sense of identity and strong goals so when they have their own families, these are the foundations.





How can the NRA support the capacity of the people to build capacity for themselves and to support a healthy future? We need to build the capacity of the organisations, looking at the foundations of their constitutions and that the NRA does not monitor but supports the members. How do we encourage our people to stand their ground and realise that they sovereign people and they have sovereign nation?





NRA

Ngarrindjeri Vision for Country

Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnan

(Listen to what Ngarrindjeri people have to say)

Our Lands, Our Waters, Our People, All Living Things are connected. We implore people to respect our Ruwe (Country) as it was created in the Kaldowinyeri (the Creation). We long for sparkling, clean waters, healthy land and people and all living things. We long for the Yarlumar-Ruwe (Sea Country) of our ancestors. Our vision is all people Caring, Sharing, Knowing and Respecting the lands, the waters and all living things.

Ours Goals are

- For our people, children and descendants to be healthy and to enjoy our healthy lands and waters
- To see our lands and waters healthy and spiritually alive
- For all our people to benefit from our equity in our lands and waters
- To see our closest friends – our Ngartjis (special animals) – healthy and spiritually alive
- For our people to continue to occupy and benefit from our lands and waters
- To see all people respecting our laws and living in harmony with our lands and waters





Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority

Building our Nation

Securing our Future

Caring for our people, lands, waters and all living things

Goals

Sovereign Nation

Strong Culture

Living Language

Secure Future

Healthy Country

Confident People

Creative Economy

Regional Leader

Respected History

Message

Working together for a strong, healthy and sovereign Ngarrindjeri nation





NRA Projects and Activities

Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnan Agreement

Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnan Agreement (KNYA) translates to mean Listening to Ngarrindjeri people talking agreement. The KNYA is a consultation and negotiation agreement between the South Australian Government and the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority. The NRA has continued to have monthly 'KNYA Taskforce' meetings with government agencies to discuss activities occurring on Ngarrindjeri lands and waters. The quarterly Leader to Leader meetings have also occurred, these meetings provide Ngarrindjeri Leaders with an important communication forum with SA government Ministers. The KNYA has been a platform that has propelled some key Ngarrindjeri initiatives including The Australian Riverprize, The NRA and CEWH Water Delivery Agreement, The Ngarrindjeri Speaking as Country Deed and The Water Resource Planning Statement of Commitment.

Leader to Leader

Leader To Leader meetings have been conducted at two levels including local government and ministerial. This allows the NRA to discuss strategies that will make an impact at both local and state level.

At local level Leader To Leader meetings, we consider issues around heritage and the socio-economic but it mainly covers our operational work and what impacts the NRA directly.

At Leader To Minister meetings, there is stronger emphasis on strategic direction, at what is available, what is proposed and our rights and responsibilities around the protection and preservation of Ngarrindjeri culture, community and country





Yarluwar Ruwe Program

The NRA Yarluwar Ruwe Program provides a culturally appropriate mechanism for Ngarrindjeri to engage in cultural heritage and natural resources management. The Yarluwar Ruwe Program continues to steer our direction to participate in these activities. The program continues to work closely with the Heritage Team and the Ngarrindjeri Heritage Committee to integrate cultural principals into all Projects. The Sustainability of the Ngarrindjeri Yarluwar Ruwe Program has been a focus during 2016, the KNYA mechanism has been utilised to discuss partnerships and future funding opportunities to broker new funding sources which will be critical for the program to continue to develop and implement Ngarrindjeri engagement in our region.

Indigenous Advancement Strategy

The NRA has received funding under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) Program to continue to pursue our KNY Agreement. A key element is working towards increased sustainable employment for Ngarrindjeri.





Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder

The NRA and Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) Water Delivery Agreement provides Ngarrindjeri the opportunity to engage with environmental water planning to provide water to benefit Ngarrindjeri culture. We are currently engaging with the CEWH and State to deliver environmental water to one or two sites during this watering year, with an aim to expand the following year.

Digital Media Team Activity

The Ngarrindjeri digital media team in conjunction with partner film company Change Media have been very busy this past 12 months developing a total of 8 films, 3 films (everything is connected) winning national awards in the Melbourne film festival and the We Are Ngarrindjeri Film winning an Award in the Los Angeles film festival and our proud new 2016 release "We Are Water People."

We have been working hard on developing A Ngarrindjeri culture Hub to help promote and raise the status of our Ngarrindjeri artists with the intension to deliver 7 more films promoting Ngarrindjeri artists around our region. We produced a 'thankyou' film for Fulton & Hogan for their support of the state football carnival, an evaluation film for the Yarlurwar Ruwe program, a Working on country evaluation film and a Repatriation film that was shown in a repatriation conference in japan which was viewed by repatriation representatives from all over the world.

I'm proud to report that I have been advised that our Ngarrindjeri Films have been viewed internationally.

Yarlurwar Ruwe Evaluation <https://vimeo.com/182350456>

We Are Water People <https://vimeo.com/174311433>

Everything is connected Ngarrindjeri Carving <https://vimeo.com/153725350>

*Everything is Connected Ngarrindjeri Weaving * <https://vimeo.com/153710780>

Everything is connected Ngarrindjeri Dance <https://vimeo.com/153657507>





Jawun Update

How Jawun works

A number of steps are involved in placing skilled secondees into Indigenous organisations:

1. **Projects for support are identified:** Indigenous organisations outline their priorities
2. **Skills required are identified:** Jawun helps the Indigenous organisations think through the corporate or government secondees required
3. **Secondees are matched with projects:** Jawun works with corporate and government partners to identify suitable secondees
4. **Induction and support:** Jawun manages the secondee's induction into the region and provides ongoing support during their secondment (typically six weeks)

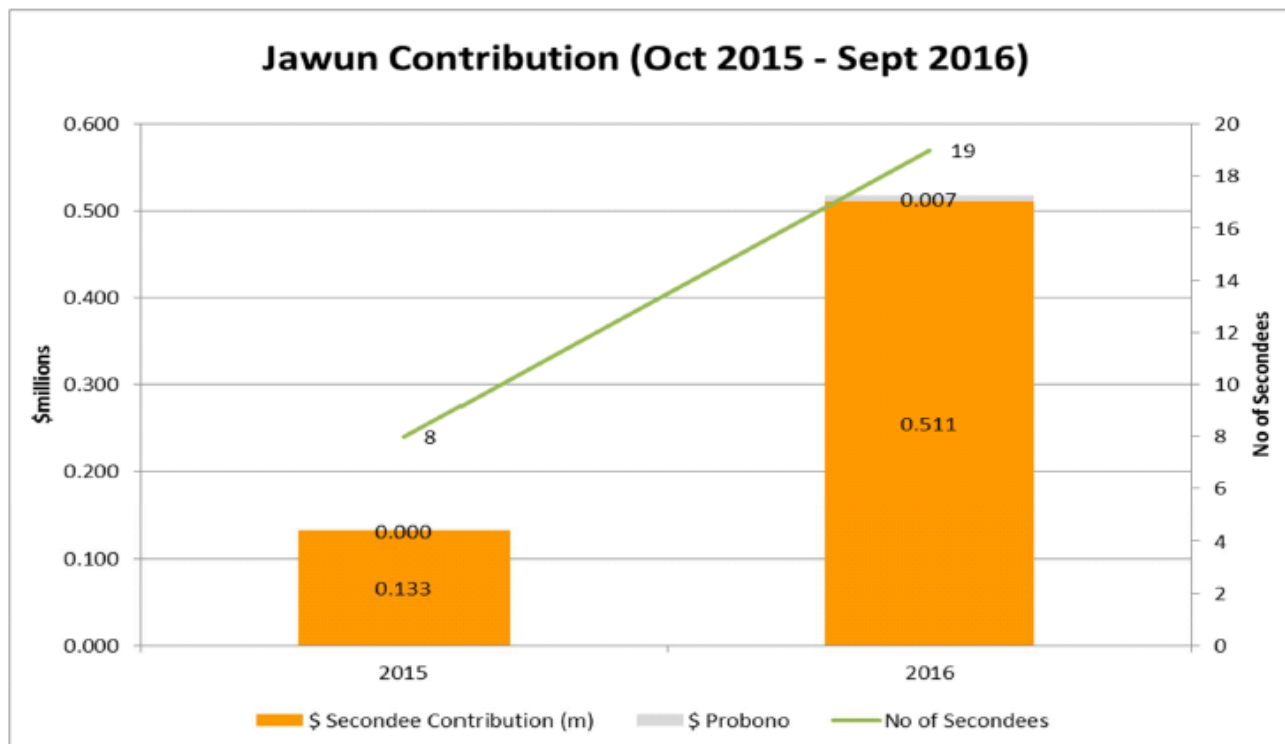
[Jawun has] a decisive role in our work in Cape York. [It] gave us people from the private sector who have helped us to see beyond the welfare horizons that used to dominate Indigenous affairs when our sole source of input was government. The combination of key organisations, their sustained commitment over a long period of time, the commitment of their most valuable resource – their people – makes [Jawun] a new model for corporate–community partnerships aimed at tackling disadvantage.

Noel Pearson (2000), Founder and Director of Strategy, Cape York Partnership; Chairman, Good to Great Schools Australia; Jawun Patron.



From Oct 2015 – Sept 2016, Jawun contributed 27 secondees and \$0.64m

Oct 2015 - Sept 2016	B.O.C	Project	TOTAL
Secondees	25	2	27
In-kind \$m Contribution to Sept 2016	\$0.60m	\$0.04m	\$0.64m



Focus on governance and safe & supportive communities

Focus Areas (Oct 2015 - Sept 2016)				
		B.O.C	Project	TOTAL
Early Child Development		0	0	0
Education & Training		0	0	0
Healthy Lives		3	0	3
Economic Participation		5	2	7
Home Environment		0	0	0
Safe & Supportive Communities		0	0	0
Governance & Leadership		17	0	17
2010 -June 2016		B.O.C	Project	TOTAL
Secondees		25	2	27
In-kind \$m Contribution to Sept 2016		\$0.60m	\$0.04m	\$0.64m
In-kind \$m Contribution to Sept 2016		0.604155	0.039509	0.64

Key observations:

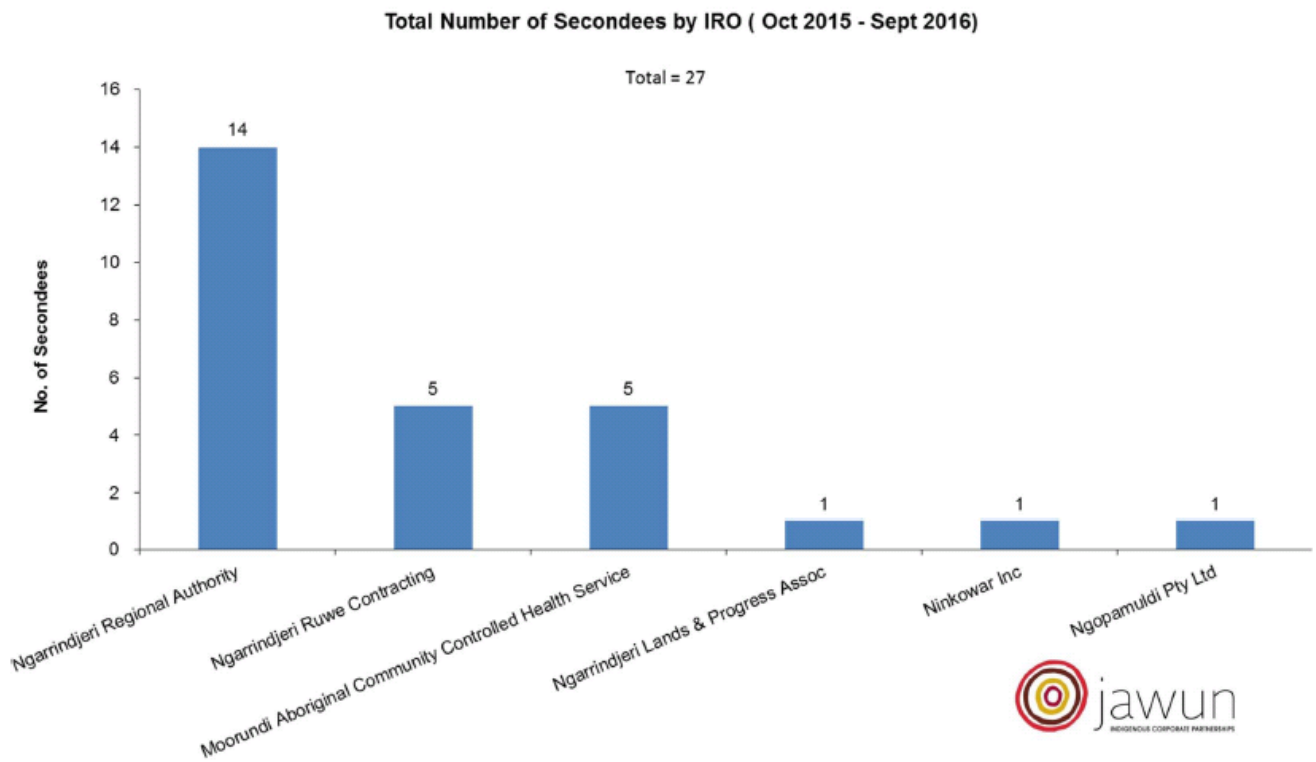
Since start of partnership:

- 93% of secondees (25) allocated to building organisational capacity
- 7% of secondees (2) allocated to direct project work
- Secondees allocated to key focus areas (COAG) of:
 1. Governance & Leadership (17)
 2. Economic Participation (5)
 3. Healthy Lives (3)

(These focus areas align with the allocation of secondees mainly to Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority, Ngarrindjeri Ruwe Contracting, and Moorundi Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service)



Support provided across 6 local organisations

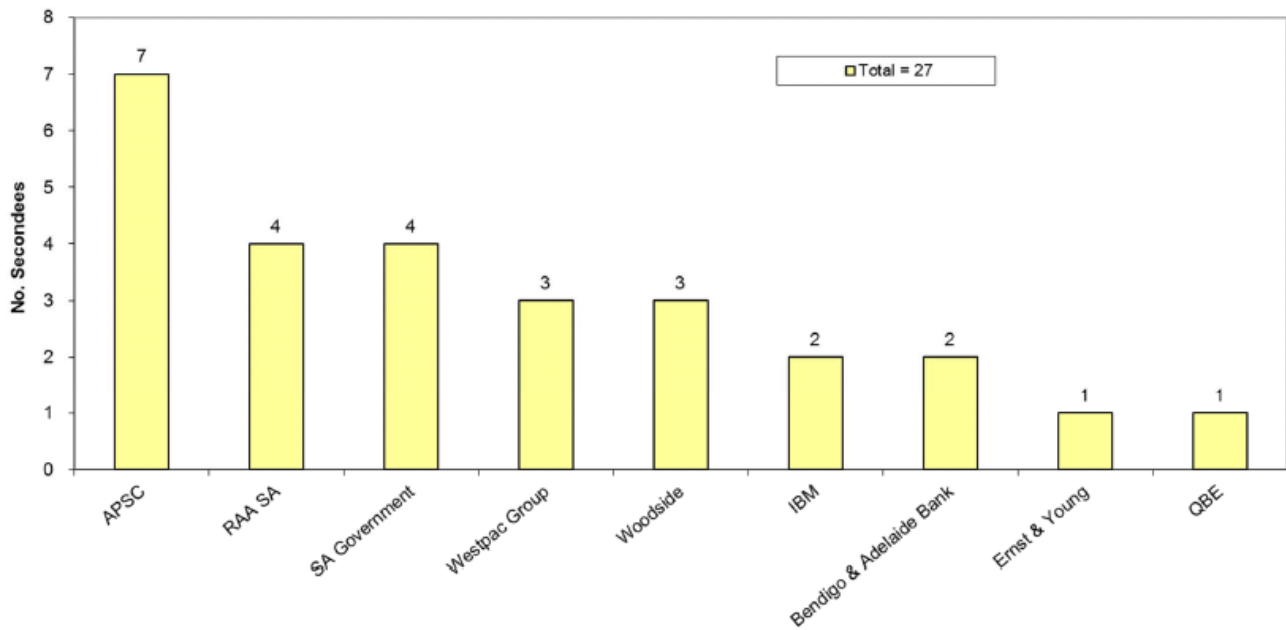




10 corporate and government partners have supported LRM since 2015



No. Secondees by Partner (Oct 2015 - Sept 2016)





Case Study



Changing the rules of engagement for Ngarrindjeri economic participation

Background

The Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority (NRA) is the peak Indigenous organisation at the Lower River Murray, Lakes and Coorong region of South Australia. The NRA represents more than 12 community organisations from a broad range of sectors including community services, land care, traditional governance, eco-tourism and cultural education.

The NRA negotiates important agreements on behalf of its nation and takes a leading role in facilitating and brokering relationships between its organisations and government or corporate stakeholders. It aims to reduce reliance on government funding by strengthening Indigenous-owned businesses – ones that bring a range of social and economic benefits to individuals and communities, but face significant barriers in doing so.

In 2015 the NRA agreed that they were spending too much time actively looking for business opportunities, and were being overlooked in public procurement processes. With this in mind, the NRA sought Jawun's support to: enhance participation of Ngarrindjeri businesses in public procurement; advance Ngarrindjeri economic and business development; and promote partnership opportunities between Ngarrindjeri and non-Ngarrindjeri businesses.

From February 2016, three Jawun secondees from the Australian Government, Ernst and Young, and Woodside respectively were deployed to resolve this with the Managing Director of the NRA's subsidiary company, Ngarrindjeri Ruwe Contracting (NRC), Luke Trevorrow.





Approach

Relationship building and re-shaping was identified as the first step. Australian Tax Office Workforce Supply (Contract) Manager Scott Ison was deployed for his specialised skills in procurement. Scott used his tender evaluation expertise to develop a revised tender clause that could reshape the relationship between NRC and major civil construction firms looking to win government contracts within the boundary of the Ngarrindjeri nation. To promote it, Scott emphasised the benefit for the SA Government of appointing a single Aboriginal contact, via NRC, for major projects in the region. His understanding of government process was instrumental in getting buy-in for the new tender clause.

Following preliminary agreement to adopt the new clause, Ernst and Young Corporate Finance, Mergers and Acquisitions Manager Kirsten Bernhardt, was deployed to use her commercial advisory skills to increase access to opportunities for Ngarrindjeri businesses – since as Luke had identified, they were being routinely left out of key SA Government procurement decisions.

Kirsten began by working with Luke to support NRC's registration with the SA Government Aboriginal Business Portal, a gateway into the SA Government procurement space which grants registered users access to contractual opportunities. Kirsten also used her commercial expertise to submit applications to local councils for NRC to become 'prequalified' – indicating that it has the requisite skills and experience required to submit tenders. For this, she created strong capability statements integral in negotiations with prospective tenderers.

With agreement from the SA Government over the new tender clause, and NRC in a stronger position to access public procurement opportunities, Luke sought Jawun's help to develop a strong tender process within NRC, and one in accordance with SA Government probity rules and best practice.

In August 2016, Woodside Contracting & Procurement Adviser Tyrone Handley came to NRC, bringing vital contracting experience. Identifying the risk that NRC could lose the tender clause if an unsuccessful tenderer lodged a complaint and NRC could not demonstrate prudent procedures, Tyrone worked to safeguard progress made to date. He created an internal probity policy for NRC, and an account management structure that ensured a responsive service to prospective contractors.

Outcomes

With Jawun's support, NRC has become part of the SA Government tender process that compels the commercial sector to not only approach them, but also define how they intend to maximise opportunities for Ngarrindjeri people. For the first time in SA, tenderers are now engaging directly with the Indigenous community. By strategically applying the professional skills of secondees, Luke and NRC have allowed Ngarrindjeri businesses to operate on a more level playing field.

These changes have also enabled government and industry to recognise that strong relationships with Ngarrindjeri make good business sense and bring mutual benefits. Benefits include:





- **Certainty in processes** – a positive relationship can facilitate certainty for business and other processes that result in timely business operations and decisions while averting costly delays.
- **Access to a labour force** – Ngarrindjeri have a highly skilled workforce which supports major construction firms with a range of services that otherwise would scarce or costly, for significant projects (such as the NBN rollout across regional South Australia).
- **Social responsibility** – The new tender clause enables the conditions for contractors to form meaningful partnerships with the Ngarrindjeri Nation in a way that builds and supports strong communities and fosters opportunities for people to pursue a living.
- **Access to cultural knowledge** – Ngarrindjeri holds a wealth of knowledge about the diversity and interactions among their plant and animal species, landforms and waterways. Companies may benefit from this knowledge to build new practices for protecting and conserving resources, or complying with cultural heritage management.

Luke sees clearly the importance of the secondees' contribution: *"Their collective efforts have supported us to grow, and to employ Ngarrindjeri to work on our lands and waters – which our people have done for thousands of years".*

Other benefits included skills transfer and professional role modelling by the secondees. As Luke explained, *"It was great to see how Kirsten operates and communicates with potential clients. Her insight into corporate needs was eye opening. Her organisation and work ethic is inspiring."*

The secondees themselves also had a unique and enriching experience, which changed how they work as individuals and in companies. Tyrone for example reflected that, *"The secondment afforded me an opportunity to deepen my skills. I will leave with a better understanding of the opportunities for Indigenous contracting within my company's supply chain."*

Next Steps

Through new business, the tender clause has so far supported NRC to reduce its reliance on government funding by 30%, contributing to the regional communities' economic prosperity and sustainability. It aims to continue this. The next opportunity is the South East Flows Restoration Project, a \$60m joint investment by the SA and Australian Governments to manage regional wetlands. NRC will provide resources for planning and construction, and cultural advice in aquatic ecology and cultural heritage management, through at least 10 full-time positions and two new commercial ventures.





Case Study

Weaving together the brand identity of the Ngarrindjeri Nation



Background

The Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority (NRA) is the peak Indigenous organisation in the Lower River Murray, Lakes and Coorong region of South Australia. Traditional owners came together to form this organisation following the controversy over the construction of the Hindmarsh Island Bridge in the 1990s and the abolition of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, an episode which forged their conviction to deal collectively with land management and cultural heritage. Today, the NRA represents more than 12 community organisations from a broad range of sectors including land care, traditional governance, eco-tourism, community services, and cultural education.

While they stood firmly together in principle, the member organisations of NRA had never had a common brand or visual identity, except for the Ngarrindjeri flag. Instead, each community organisation used their own symbols, images and logos. This meant that NRA's collective identity was not widely understood, and opportunities were being missed for communicating the core values of Ngarrindjeri culture in a unified way. In an age where a digital presence is critical for engagement and advocacy, the lack of a common brand also meant NRA risked low visibility as a major player in the region.

In late 2015, the NRA asked Jawun for support with a marketing strategy, the centrepiece of which would be a new logo and brand representing the culture and values of the Ngarrindjeri Nation. Other components included branding to help the commercialisation of several Ngarrindjeri businesses. Seven of the NRA's member organisations agreed to be part of the project.

By February 2016, a Jawun secondee from the Department of Treasury and Finance from the South Australian government had been deployed: Immacolata 'Mac' Bollella, Acting Manager of Communication Services, had the right skills and experience, and was keen to support the capacity of Indigenous organisations in the Lower River Murray region.





Approach

Initially, Mac spent time listening to key Ngarrindjeri elders and community members, hearing their stories and aspirations as a nation. Through this, she began to build a picture of Ngarrindjeri spirituality and culture, and the importance of maintaining and passing this on. She remembers, *"I learnt about elders, their expectations and legacies – and how these are handed down through generations."* Considering how to translate this into a unified 'comms strategy' was not an easy task, but Mac was undaunted: *"It was a challenging experience, which took me out of my comfort zone... exactly what I needed."*

After the consultations with elders and community members, Mac did a desk review of previous Ngarrindjeri branding efforts. She analysed how these matched the aspirations of the NRA and how they were perceived in the marketplace. She went back to elders and community members with ideas, emphasising to them the importance of a compelling brand and the components which make it successful. They gave feedback, and encouraged others in the community to join the consultative process.

Outcomes

By the end of the secondment, Mac had delivered a marketing strategy and a new logo representing the culture and values of the Ngarrindjeri Nation. With this generated through community participation, there was confidence that it represented the Ngarrindjeri Nation faithfully. For the first time, member organisations could represent themselves externally in a way that was united and visually powerful.

Overall, NRA staff and partners agreed that the new marketing and branding products had enabled:

- **consistency** across all NRA and partner documentation;
- **confidence**, optimism and respect from those who support NRA the most, i.e. staff;
- **a community of supporters** and people who want to represent their culture – past, present and future;
- **education** among Ngarrindjeri citizenry of the legacy of their culture and their connection to people, land, water, plants and animals;
- **promotion** of Ngarrindjeri and their importance to the South Australian community; and
- **co-branding opportunities** for partner organisations to build positive and bold identities.





Mac's secondment also produced several other branding and marketing products to support Ngarrindjeri businesses. These included a new retail brand for the three commercial garden nursery's, and a marketing brochure for Camp Coorong accommodation which is expected to increase the number of bookings. Moorundi Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service adapted a version of the NRA branding for Moorundi Health Service, and used it to create its own brand identity and new uniforms for health workers.

Taken together, the application of the new branding should drive local employment opportunities for Ngarrindjeri people, and further drive the sustainability of NRA and the Ngarrindjeri Nation. Clyde Rigney Jnr, CEO of Moorundi Health Services, spoke of the significant impact Mac's placement had for the whole Ngarrindjeri Nation:

"Mac was able to translate a number of conversations with key elders and turn that into a logo that we can identify with and support together. Through this, Mac has helped our Nation take a step forward with our brand identity, and we've been acknowledged for this by key Indigenous leaders from other communities"

He added, *"Mac had the ability to work with people to get their comfort and trust, to quickly understand what Ngarrindjeri are about and then translate that into a body of work that is going to be really beneficial to us – we were very pleased to have Mac as Jawun secondee."*

Next Steps

Successfully applying the branding and marketing strategies developed by Mac is the next step in consolidating and strengthening the Ngarrindjeri Nation's brand identity, and in the commercialisation of several Ngarrindjeri-run businesses. Mac's secondment and its outcomes also prompted plans for the NRA to re-design their website and create a new intranet using the new branding's theme.



NRA Strategic Framework



Working together for a strong, healthy and sovereign Ngarrindjeri Nation





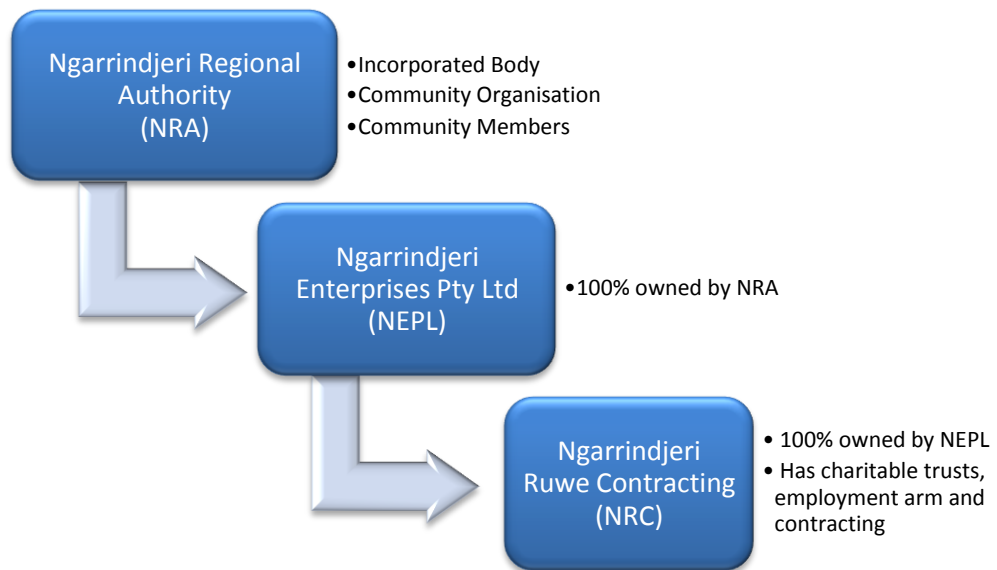
NRA & Membership Organisations

	Culture & Heritage	Community & Social Services	Economic Development	Employment, training & contracting	Policy & Research
Ngarrindjeri Tendi Inc (Governance)	x	x	x	x	x
Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority (NRA)	x	x	x	x	x
Ngarrindjeri Enterprises Pty Ltd (NEPL)			x		
Ngarrindjeri Ruwe Contracting (NRC)	x			x	
Ngarrindjeri Heritage Committee Inc	x	x		x	
Ngarrindjeri Native Title Committee	x		x	x	
Ngarrindjeri Lands and Progress Association Inc (NLPA)	x	x	x	x	x
Kalparin Community Inc		x			
Darpung Talkinyeri	x	x			
Raukkan Community Council	x	x	x	x	x
Mannum Aboriginal Community Association Inc (MACAI)	x	x	x	x	
Ninkowar Inc		x		x	
Lower Murray Nungas Club		x			
Tumake Yande	x	x			
Tangglun Piltengi Yunti Aboriginal Corporation (TPY)				x	
Ngopamuldi Aboriginal Corporation*			x	x	
Moorundi Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service*		x		x	x
* non-NRA Members x = current x = future					





Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority Structure





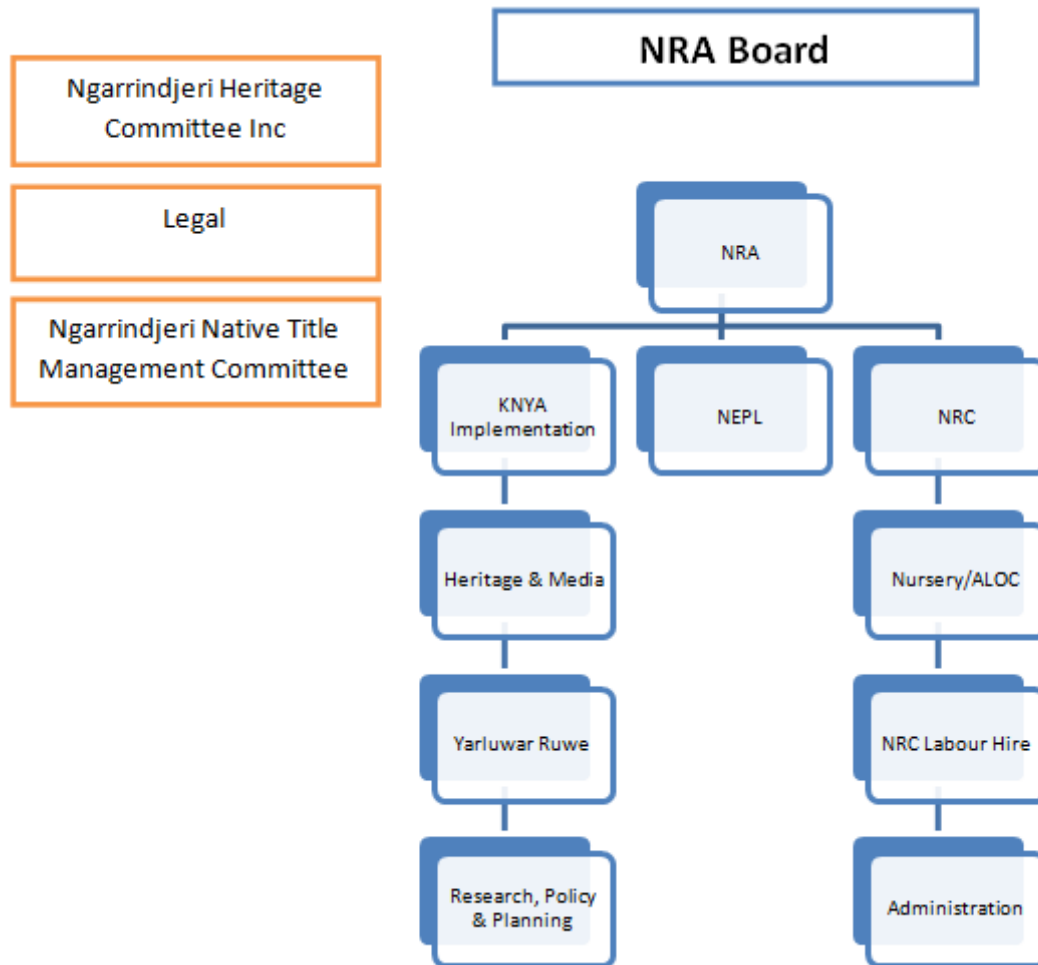
Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority Board

NRA Board Roles	2016 Executive Member	2017 Executive Member
Chair	Eunice Aston	
Vice Chair	Grant Rigney	
Secretary	Lawrie Rankine Snr	
Treasurer	Ellen Trevorrow	
Membership Organisations and Elected Members on the Board	2016 Sitting Member (Organisation Chairperson)	2017 Sitting Member (Organisation Chairperson)
Ngarrindjeri Tendi Inc.	Vacant	
Ngarrindjeri Heritage Committee Inc.	Major Sumner	
Ngarrindjeri Native Title Management Committee	Darrell Sumner	
Kalparrin Community Inc.	Marshall Carter	
Lower Murray Nungas Club Inc.	Lawrie Rankine Snr	
Darpung Talkinyeri	Major Sumner	
Raukkan Community Council		
Mannum Aboriginal Community Association Inc. (MACAI)	Anita Hunter	
Ngarrindjeri Lands and Progress Association Inc. (NLPA)	Major Sumner	
Ninkowar Inc.	Eunice Aston	
Tumake Yande	Fran Lovegrove	
Tangglun Piltengi Yunti Aboriginal Corporation (TPY)	Gladys Sumner	
Annually Elected Member 1	Margi Sumner	
Annually Elected Member 2	Grant Rigney	
Annually Elected Member 3	Ellen Trevorrow	
Annually Elected Member 4	Phyllis Williams	





Current NRA Structure – Strategic





Ngarrindjeri Research Policy and Planning Unit

The NRA Research, Policy and Planning Unit (RPPU), Co-Chaired by Professor Daryle Rigney and Associate Professor Steve Hemming from Flinders University's Office of Indigenous Strategy and Engagement. In 2015/2016 the role of the Unit as an integral part of the NRA's Yarluywar-Ruwe Program has been under review with the ending of the (Murray Futures (CLMM) Ngarrindjeri Partnership Program. The NRA has been in negotiation with the State Government in relation to continuing activities emerging from the KNYA 2009 and the relationship established through the KNYA Taskforce. These negotiations are being framed by the recognition of the NRA under the SA Government's Aboriginal Regional Authorities Policy and the development of an ARA agreement framing NRA's relationship with departments such as the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.

Both Daryle Rigney and Steve Hemming continue to secure research grants supporting the work of the NRA with a successful Australian Research Council Linkage Infrastructure Grant application extending the work of an existing ARC project on Indigenous Repatriation. The NRA is a formal partner in this project. ARC project work also continues on the international collaboration supporting Indigenous nation building. In 2016 Hemming and Rigney completed a significant project funded by the Goyder Research Institute for Water Research focussing on the incorporation of Ngarrindjeri values and interests into Ramsar Wetland management and planning. Rigney and Hemming presented conference papers, seminars and public lectures nationally and internationally promoting and supporting the work of the NRA in fields such as: Indigenous Nation Building; water management; Caring as Country; archaeology; geography; public health and wellbeing; education and economic and community development. Copies of research reports are available from the NRA and from the Flinders University Office of Indigenous Strategy and Engagement.

Publications include:

Hemming, S., Rigney, D., Berg, S., Hartman, T., Rigney, C., Rigney, G., Trevorrow, and L., (in press) 'Speaking as Country: a Ngarrindjeri Methodology of Transformative Engagement' in *Ngija: talk the law*.

Jorgensen, M., Vivian, A., Cornell, S., Rigney, D., Hemming, S & Bell, D. (in press) 'Indigenous research Methodologies' in *Ngija: talk the law*.

Bignall, S., Hemming, S., & Rigney, D. 2016 'Three Ecosophies: Environmental Governance, Indigenous Expressivism and Continental Posthumanism' in Special Edition, Deleuze and Guattari in the Anthropocene, *Deleuze Studies* 10(3): 455-478.





Hemming, S., & Rigney, D., 2016. *Restoring Murray Futures: Incorporating Indigenous knowledge, values and interests into environmental water planning in the Coorong and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Ramsar Wetland*, Goyder Institute for Water Research Technical Report Series No. 16/8, Adelaide, South Australia.

Bignall, S., Rigney, D. & Hemming, S. 2015 'Negotiating Indigenous Modernity: Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnan – Listen to Ngarrindjeri Speak', *AlterNative* 11(4): 334-339.

Conference Presentations include:

2016. Rigney, D. & Hemming, S., Repatriation and the Ngarrindjeri Nation, Session: Creating an Archive & Indigenous Governance in International Repatriation, Indigenous International Repatriation Conference "Shifting the Burden", Isleta Resort & Casino, Albuquerque, New Mexico. September 26-27, 2016

2016. Hemming, S., Rigney, D., Sumner, M., Trevorrow, L., Rankine, L. Jnr. & Wilson, C. Ngarrindjeri Repatriation: A History, World Archaeological Congress 8, Kyoto, Japan.

August – September 2016.

2016. Hemming, S., Rigney, D., Sumner, M., Trevorrow, L., Rankine, L. Jnr. & Wilson, C. Repatriation and Well-being: The Ngarrindjeri Experience, World Archaeological Congress 8, Kyoto, Japan. August – September 2016.

2016. Rigney, D. & Hemming, S. Ngarrindjeri Nation Building: Identify, Organise, Act. Jawun Key Leaders Forum, Majestic Hotel, Adelaide, 14 August, 2016.

2016. Hemming, S. & Rigney, D. 'Indigenous nations, resilience and river system health', Flinders Investigators Public Lecture Series, 20 July, Flinders University, Victoria Square.

2016. Rigney, D. & Hemming, S. 'Restoring Murray Futures: Ngarrindjeri Nation Building and Speaking as Country', Invited Leading Insights Presentation, Institute of Australian Geographers Annual Conference, 30 June, University of SA, Adelaide.

2016. Hemming, S., Rigney, D., Trevorrow, L. & Hartman, R. 'Ngarrindjeri Yannarumi Assessment of the health of the Lakes and Coorong Ramsar wetland', Invited Presentation, Coorong and Lakes Environmental Forum, Friday 17 June, Signal Point, Goolwa.





2016. Rigney, D. & Hemming, S. 'Ngarrindjeri nation (re)building workshop' Jawun Association, Secondees, Flinders University, 1 June.

2016. Rigney, D. Self-Determination and Aboriginal nation Building in Postcolonial Frame, Aboriginal Victoria Forum: Panel on Self-Determination, Melbourne Convention Centre, 26 May, 2016.

2016. Rigney, D. Indigenous Governance and Nation Building: A re-imagined future – Indigenous nations within the nation state, Health Performance Council South Australia, Aboriginal Leaders Forum, Taoundi College, 18 May, 2016.

2016. Hemming, S., Rigney, D. Trevorrow, L. & Berg, S. 'Engaging with Ngarrindjeri Cultural Knowledge', SA NRM Science Conference: Sharing Science, Adelaide University, 13-15 April, 2016.

2016. Rigney, D. Ngarrindjeri Nation Re-Building, International Advisory Council, Native Nations Institute, University of Arizona, Desert Diamond Casino, Tucson, Arizona, 8-9 April, 2016.

2016. Rigney, D. & Hemming, S. 'Ngarrindjeri nation (re)building' Jawun Association, Founding Partners Visit, Tandanya, Adelaide, 2nd March, 2016.

2016. Hemming, S. & Rigney, D. 'Repatriation of Indigenous Old People: Inter-Nation partnerships towards restoring healthy First Nations', Indigenous Rights in a Global Context: An Australian Perspective, International Network of Universities & The Office of Indigenous Strategy and Engagement, Flinders University, Adelaide, 25 February, 2016.





Mexican - Australian exchange – cultural science in the management of Ramsar wetlands

In January and February this year, Australian representatives from the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority (NRA) and the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations (MLDRIN) were invited to join the Murray-Darling Freshwater Research Centre (M-DFRC) on a ten day regional tour of Ramsar listed wetlands in Mexico. The tour was part of a scoping project run by Latrobe University and funded through the Council on Australian and Latin American Relations (COALAR) that aimed to explore the role of cultural science in the sustainable management of Ramsar wetlands in both Mexico and Australia. Hosted by the Mexican federal government's National Commission of Natural Protected areas (CONANP), the Australian delegates visited a number of Ramsar wetlands and met with Traditional authorities and government representatives to talk about the use of Indigenous cultural values and practices in Ramsar wetland management.

The second stage of the project was based in Australia in April and May and involved Mexican state and federal government representatives participating in a tour of Ramsar wetlands within the Murray-Darling Basin region. This included a tour of the Coorong and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Ramsar wetland region which NRA hosted over two days. The first day involved a visit to areas on country followed by a presentation at Camp Coorong by NRA representatives about Ngarrindjeri philosophies and strategies of engagement with government that underpin the management of the Coorong and Lakes Ramsar wetland. On the second day, the delegates travelled to the NRA business centre to join NRA staff, board members and state government representatives to learn more about legislative and policy frameworks relating to the management of the Coorong and Lakes Ramsar wetland. The Mexican delegates appreciated their time with Ngarrindjeri and were impressed with the NRA's engagement framework and on ground caring for country activities. It is hoped that NRA will maintain an ongoing relationship with the delegates and their organisations with the view to engage in future collaborative work arising from the scoping project.



