



## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

### COMMUNIQUE – MEETING 44

The Western Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council (WAAAC) was established under section 18(1) of the *Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority Act 1972* to advance the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of all Aboriginal people. The WAAAC provides expert advice to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, and the State Government, on strategic initiatives, programs and policies that affect the lives of Aboriginal people in Western Australia.

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet provides secretariat and administrative support to the WAAAC.

The 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of the WAAAC took place on Tuesday, 27 March 2018, at Dumas House in West Perth. The meeting was chaired by Mr Ian Trust and attended by Ms Gail Allison; Mr Gordon Gray; Ms Carol Pettersen; Ms Brenda Garstone; and Mr Phil Matera. Ms Krista McMeeken was an apology.

The WAAAC considered the following:

- **Aboriginal Procurement Policy** – launched by the Department of Finance at the Aboriginal Business Expo on 29 March 2018. The WAAAC members attended the Expo and are supporting the Department of Finance with their regional Education and Training Programs.
- **Guthoo Summit** – the key findings of the Guthoo Summit (Kalgoorlie) held in October 2017 were presented by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The WAAAC noted the presentation and requested a copy of the evaluation report for further consideration.
- **Learnings from the Message Stick - The report of the Inquiry into Aboriginal youth suicide in remote areas** - the Department of the Premier and Cabinet provided an update on the whole-of-government response. The WAAAC noted the presentation and emphasised the importance of a holistic and long term approach that incorporates cultural and spiritual healing.
- **Review of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (WA)** - the WAAAC received a letter from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, announcing the review process and requesting that the WAAAC promote the review throughout their community networks. The WAAAC noted the correspondence and requested a presentation on the review from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.

The next WAAAC meeting will take place on Wednesday, 9 May 2018.

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Ian Trust  
Chair  
Western Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council

