

Acknowledgement of Country

Aboriginal people have made and continue to make a unique and irreplaceable contribution to the state of South Australia.

The South Australian Government acknowledges and respects Aboriginal people as the state's first people and nations, and recognises Aboriginal people as traditional owners and occupants of South Australian land and waters.

The South Australian Government acknowledges that the spiritual, social, cultural and economic practices of Aboriginal people come from their traditional lands and waters, and that Aboriginal people maintain cultural and heritage beliefs, languages and laws which are of ongoing importance today.

Niina Marni

Welcome to the monthly update which gives a regular overview of how the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre (AACC) project is progressing.

As a key stakeholder we are excited to update you on key milestones, news and progress as we work together to establish a place for the world to learn more about the unique cultures and stories of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

New appointment

We're excited to welcome Shouwn Oosting from KSJ Consulting as our new Stakeholder Engagement Lead with Aboriginal communities, who started with us last week.

He is a descendant of the Waanyi Nation and has over 25 years of experience working in both the State and Federal Public Sector with a strong focus on Aboriginal affairs policy coordination and program delivery.

He is passionate about Reconciliation and improving outcomes for Australia's First Nations people and has worked across key portfolios including Aboriginal health, workforce development, education and employment, Aboriginal affairs and reconciliation, Aboriginal engagement, and public sector employment.

Design workshop: 31 May 2021

Attendees: Kirstie Parker, Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG); Keith Thomas, ARG; Cara Kirkwood, ARG; Craig Ritchie, ARG; Nara Wilson; Kaine Sultan Babij; Di Dixon, Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC); Lana Blazujevic, DPC; Colleen McDonnell, DPC; Angela Flynn (DPC); Layton Waters, Department for Transport and Infrastructure (DIT); Rosina Di Maria, Woods Bagot (W-B); Thomas Masullo, W-B; Jasmine Kerdel, W-B; Waleed Moughraby, W-B; Jess Austin, Diller Scofidio + Renfro; Paul Herzich, Oculus.



Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre ARG Workshop

At the workshop attendees considered the detail around the Flexible Theatre, Outdoor Amphitheatre, Green Room, General Outdoors and Façade.

Other considerations suggested included:

- Restaurant menu to be inspired by Australian native food
- Accessibility for Elders to be considered for across the whole site
- Internal performance space requires a maintenance/workshop area (consider this in Back of House)
- Consideration to change the admin space to a workshop for theatre
- Essential void space possibility to suspend artwork and allow for works of scale
- Possibilities for AACC to host festivals such as Spirit Festival, Melbourne Fashion, Survival Day etc
- Provide flexibility for intimate functions and large grand functions
- Lot Fourteen integration so that AACC is part of broader environment
- Create retreat rooms – to facilitate safe and quiet spaces to accommodate any visitor responses and cultural protocol requirements
- Explore having a smoking cleansing of the building and all spaces before the opening

Aboriginal Economic Participation Strategy to be released

Overseen by the AACC Aboriginal Reference Group, the *AACC Aboriginal Economic Participation Strategy* has been developed for the purpose of defining opportunities and practical solutions to support the realisation of economic benefits for Aboriginal people throughout the construction and ongoing operations of the AACC.

The AACC Aboriginal Reference Group will continue to oversee the implementation of *the Strategy* through regular monitoring and evaluation.

Aboriginal business briefing

Aboriginal businesses will be invited for a briefing on the AACC project on 15 July 2021 at Tandanya.

We will hold an informal briefing session exclusively for Aboriginal owned businesses to discuss the Aboriginal Economic and Workforce involvement during the project.

Maximising opportunities for local Aboriginal owned businesses and Aboriginal workforce participation are key priorities for the project.

Involving businesses early in the process means we will be able to build relationships and optimise participation and benefits from the project.

If you have any questions or feedback you would like to give with regards to the AACC Project or anything in this Update, please direct them to aacc@sa.gov.au

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