

Acknowledgement of Country

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

We acknowledge we are on Kurna Miyurna land. The Dreaming is still living. From the past, in the present, into the future, forever.

Welcome

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.

Project Launch marks start of construction

A major milestone in the delivery of the AACC project was reached on 14 December, as construction commenced at Lot Fourteen.

At the official Project Launch, the commencement of construction was celebrated by Senior Kurna custodians, leaders and elders, as well as project stakeholders.

Thank you to everyone involved in the project so far. We look forward to keeping you updated as the project progresses.

AACC looks to the future with new name

The AACC's name was also unveiled at the Project Launch and will now be known as Tarrkarri (pronounced tar-ka-ri) – Centre for First Nations Cultures.

The new name means 'the future' in Kurna language and symbolises the setting of strong foundations for the Centre, located on the Adelaide Plains.

The naming process was overseen by the AACC Aboriginal Reference Group and given cultural consent by Kurna Warra Karrpanthi.



David Rathman AM PSM, Tarrkarri Ambassador, addressing guests at the Project Launch

A video was created to capture the inspirational and emotive footage from the Project Launch and can be found on the Lot Fourteen [website](#).

To relive the full Project Launch event, the livestreamed recording can be found [here](#).

Commemorative Karra (River Redgum) tree

At the Project Launch the presentation of a commemorative Karra (River Redgum) tree was offered to the Kaurna people.

The Karra tree will be one of the first items to be planted on the Tarrkarri site, to grow alongside the Centre.

Until this time comes, the Karra tree will be nurtured by the Botanic Gardens of South Australia; enabling the Karra tree to prosper.



Presentation of a commemorative Karra (River Redgum) tree

Lendlease announced as lead builder

At the Project Launch, Lendlease was announced as the lead contractor managing the construction of Tarrkarri.

General Manager of Building at Lendlease South Australia, Ben Symons said this project of national significance will set a new standard for First Nations engagement in government infrastructure projects. He also highlighted Lendlease's Elevate

Reconciliation Action Plan commitments, which form part of the way they do business.

“Promoting First Nations leadership and delivering shared prosperity is a focus of our projects around the country, along with our commitment to ensuring it leaves a positive legacy through local employment, training and procurement opportunities.”

AACC Delivery Team

The AACC Project team continues to grow, with Laura O’Neil, Communications and Marketing Officer joining the team this month – welcome Laura!

Lee-Ann wins at 2021 Ruby Awards

Congratulations to Lee-Ann Tjunypa Buckskin, Tarrkarri’s Assistant Director, Program and Strategy, who was awarded the Stevie Gadlabarti Goldsmith Memorial Award at the 2021 Ruby Awards.

The Ruby Awards honour the best of South Australia’s arts and culture sector. Read more [here](#).

We are listening

The Tarrkarri Stakeholder Engagement Team are committed to genuine engagement with all First Nations Peoples and stakeholders.

If you have any questions or feedback you would like to give with regards to Tarrkarri, or how you would like us to involve you, please email aacc@sa.gov.au