



▶ Message from the Chair

Kaya SWALSC members

I am honoured to be the new Chair of SWALSC. I'm so dedicated to our Noongar community, and I look forward to working with our board and members to ensure successful outcomes and improving life circumstances for our people. Thank you to Noel Morich and Brendan Moore for their leadership prior to my appointment.

You may have seen news about the recent sale of the El Caballo Lifestyle Village. The El Caballo Resort and Lifestyle Village was purchased by Equity Trustees in 2020, with funds from the Noongar Charitable Trust. The El Caballo Lifestyle Village was recently sold by the trustee at a significant loss. SWALSC requested an investigation into the purchase by Equity Trustees.

Our board is concerned with this matter, and SWALSC is assisting the Ombudsman of Western Australia with their investigation. We hope it will shed light onto why the funds held on trust for Noongar people were used in this way. Visit our website to read our statements at noongar.org.au/news.

SWALSC and the six Noongar Regional Corporations are running elections for their boards and Cultural Advice Committees. SWALSC is running a ballot for six Director positions, one for each Ward of the Corporation, and one Expert Director. Find out more about the SWALSC elections on our website at noongar.org.au/elections.

Our AGM will be held on Monday, 6 November 2023 at the High Wycombe Community and Recreation Centre. The AGM notice has been posted to members and will be in mailboxes shortly. We look forward to seeing our members there, and catching over a cuppa and a yarn.

Our Djilba edition of Boorna Wangkiny includes our new partnership with ABC's Play School; a relocation of Woylies to the South Australian Yorke Peninsula; the Yikan Noongar Language Program developed with the Department of Education; a recap of the AIATSIS Summit; and impressive geoglyphs that are blooming across the Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar region.

It's great to see such important and valued initiatives across Noongar boodja. I look forward to progressing in our work with the six regional corporations in continuing to build a strong, unified, and empowered Noongar Nation.

Strength and unity,
Megan Krakouer
SWALSC Chair

Djilba edition
September
2023

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Noongar advocate takes the Chair

SWALSC warmly welcomes Noongar woman, Megan Krakouer, as its new Chair.

Megan is a proud Noongar Menang woman with a degree in law and a strong background in advocating for the rights of our First Nations people.

Megan is highly regarded within the First Nations and Noongar communities, dedicating much of her time leading the National Suicide Prevention and Trauma Recovery Project.

In 2023, Megan was awarded Perth Community Citizen of the Year and the University of NSW 2023 Australian Mental Health Prize winner, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. In 2018 Megan won the Dr Yunupingu Award for Human Rights at the National Indigenous Human Rights Awards.

SWALSC Chief Executive Officer, Vanessa Kickett, said "Megan Krakouer is a well-known and passionate advocate for the Noongar community. We look forward to working with Megan, as we know she will be an inspirational leader for the team at SWALSC."

Nominations are now open for the City of Perth Community Citizen of the Year. To nominate someone you know who has made a significant contribution to the community, visit citizenshipawards.com.au/nominate.



NAIDOC Week celebrations

In July, SWALSC kicked off NAIDOC Week celebrations at the popular and family-friendly NAIDOC Perth Opening Ceremony at Moort-ak Waadiny/ Wellington Square, East Perth.

The SWALSC stall was a great opportunity to engage with community and share information about the South West Native Title Settlement and the six Noongar regional corporations. We joined more than 50 other stallholders including community groups, government departments, and artisan sellers. The event featured entertainment from traditional dancers, musicians, rappers Flewnt and Inkabee, face painting, cultural activities, and refreshments.

Our Heritage Officer and Lands Officer delivered a fantastic and engaging presentation to staff at McDonald's in Ascot, sharing information about our Noongar people, history, and culture.

We also celebrated NAIDOC Week with a morning tea at the SWALSC office.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Noongar yorga and professional netballer Donnell Wallam who was awarded the 2023 National NAIDOC Sportsperson.

Donnell was the second Indigenous Suncorp super netball player, and the third Indigenous woman to play netball for Australia.

As well as being an incredible athlete, Donnell attends and participates in netball coaching clinics. She is also a proud ambassador for Deadly Choices, and a strong advocate for her community and culture.

Visit the NAIDOC website to learn more about Donnell and her achievements at naidoc.org.au/award-finalist/donnell-wallam.

SWALSC staff with Dean Parkin and Dennis Liddelow from Yes23.



Traditional dancing at the NAIDOC Perth Opening Ceremony.



SWALSC says YES

We are proud to support the Indigenous Voice to Parliament in Australia's Constitution. We believe this important step will demonstrate respect for First People's communities across Australia, including our Noongar Nation.

We encourage everyone to write YES on the ballot paper for the referendum on Saturday, 14 October 2023.

You can learn more about the Voice to Parliament and what it will do for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people at voice.gov.au.



2023 AIATSIS Summit on Noongar boodja

The 2023 AIATSIS Summit, co-convened by SWALSC, was a fantastic opportunity to share our Noongar culture, challenges and information to delegates from across Australia.

From our daily Welcomes to Country and Smoking Ceremonies, artwork, presentations and entertainment, Noongar culture was featured throughout the national week-long event.

More than 1700 delegates attended the event at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, and the program featured 400 sessions across five days. Around 200 people also registered to watch the plenary sessions live online.

Within the theme 'Navigating the spaces in-between', the sessions covered a range of topics including research, constitutional transformation, country, native title, women's empowerment, treaty, health and finding your mob.

SWALSC and the six Noongar Regional Corporations each had exhibition booths at the national event, which provided opportunities to engage people about Noongar culture, art, and tradition, and to present a strong and unified Noongar Nation. At the SWALSC booth delegates were also interested to learn more about the historic South West Native Title Settlement.

As co-conveners, SWALSC were invited to recommend eight young people to join the Summit and attend the Youth Forum and discuss experiences of Indigenous youth. The thirty young participants discussed ideas for native title, governance, and nation-building.

Gail Mabo, daughter of land rights campaigner Eddie Mabo, and her son, Kaleb, delivered a

powerful keynote address. Kaleb shared some of the history of Mer Island and the story of Mabo, receiving a standing ovation from delegates.

Noongar Elders Dr Richard Walley and Geri Hayden also delivered keynote presentations, with Richard encouraging guests to join in singing a Welcome song.

Due to heavy rain, the Native Threads First Nations Fashion Show, originally scheduled for Yagan Square, was moved to the Summit site. The parade drew a large crowd and featured an incredible array of First Nations designers. The energy continued throughout the week, with local artists selling fashion, jewellery, and other wares.

In the exhibition hall, a communal weaving project from Culture Weave, led by Noongar artist Nadine Foley, was popular with delegates and led to the creation of a beautiful piece of artwork. Noongar artworks were also on display throughout the venue and breakout rooms, to showcase talented Noongar artists.

Delegates also enjoyed social activities including a relaxed dinner on Wednesday night at Claremont Showgrounds featuring Noongar dancers Koolankas Kreate and entertainment from Della Rae Morrison. On Friday night, Noongar journalist Narelda Jacobs hosted the gala dinner as MC. The event featured a performance by Midn Marr Dreaming, and musical entertainment from Boox Kid, Isaiah Firebrace, and Broken Tides.

You can view photos from the Summit and read information about the speakers on the AIATSIS website at aiatsis.gov.au/whats-new/events/aiatsis-summit-2023.



L– R: Stan Headland and Terry Morich conducting a Smoking Ceremony.

Nadine Foley, Culture Weave, with a finished communal artwork.

Liz Hayden delivering a Welcome to Country.

Midn Marr Dreaming.

L– R: Midn Marr Dreaming

The SWALSC exhibition booth at AIATSIS

Our partnership with Play School

SWALSC has an exciting partnership with the ABC's Play School that will bring Noongar culture into homes across Australia and the world.

The collaboration will explore opportunities to develop content and resources across screen, audio, and online through Play School's Noongar doll and permanent cast member, 'Kiya'.

SWALSC is engaging representatives from the six regional Cultural Advice Committees to form a 'Play School Cultural Advice Committee' and provide cultural advice on:

- Noongar history, culture, and language
- Told stories, props, and accessories
- When and in what context they should be used
- Kiya's clothing selection
- Educational story ideas for Kiya
- First Nations language and props
- Suitability of non-Noongar and/or non-First Nations presenters.



Jemima, Kiya and Little Ted visit SWALSC.

Noongar recipients of the King's Birthday 2023 Honours

Congratulations to these deadly yorgas for their Order of Australia awards.

Narelda Jacobs, a Whadjuk Noongar woman, received an award for her service to the media and to the community. As a well-recognised journalist who speaks on the side of justice for Aboriginal people, Narelda said she accepted the award with "deep thought and humility."

Carol Martin, Yamatji Noongar politician received an award for her service to the Parliament of WA and to the Indigenous community. Carol was the first Indigenous woman to be elected to any parliament in Australia, in 2001.

Irene Stainton, Noongar Elder, received an award for distinguished service to the Indigenous community through cultural heritage leadership and through health and social welfare organisations. Irene has over 30 years of experience in the public sector.

Denise Smith-Ali, Noongar yorga, honoured with an award for her work over the last 20 years preserving and reviving the Noongar language. Denise's Noongar culture has been the foundation for her life's work as the Senior Linguist/ Language Coordinator for the Noongar Language Centre

Living artworks on Noongar boodja

Living geoglyphs planted more than six years ago are blooming across the Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar region.

The geoglyphs each represent a Noongar totem and a story connected to Country, and are visible from the air.

These impressive, living artworks have been designed and planted as part of the Gondwana Link Project, which engaged local Traditional Owners and rangers to carry out the project.

Eugene Eades, Goreng Noongar Elder, has been a key leader of this project, which he said was a joy to see come together.

“The message came quite clearly from the Elders that I’ve worked with over the years that we need to put something back that tells our story. And it ended up resulting in a series of totems that belong to each of the families, as well as the story that was already in the land in the way the wadjella restoration work has been going,” Eugene said.

“It’s only fitting that we actually implement and put into place a number of stories, side by side, with tales of two cultures in a true spirit of reconciliation.”

Eugene’s nephew, Erol Eades, designed the totems, which were then enlarged and sketched out onto the land using a tractor. He said witnessing all the people and organisations in collaboration has been a great example of working towards reconciliation and making a difference.

“It continues to happen where we walk together, talk together, laugh together and cry together,” Erol said.

“This has been a wonderful journey, and I’m really talking on behalf of my people who I love so dearly and especially those Elders who are no longer with us today.

“I feel that they’re crying tears of joy as they look at this development that takes place upon Noongar Boodja. And I think we should be proud of the efforts that have gone in.”

Below: Nowanup. Photo by Oliver Oldroyd.

Opposite: Karda cultural planting at Yarrabee, 2017. Photo by Amanda Keesing.



Yirkan Noongar Language Program

Did you know that more than 90% of public schools in WA are located on Noongar boodja?

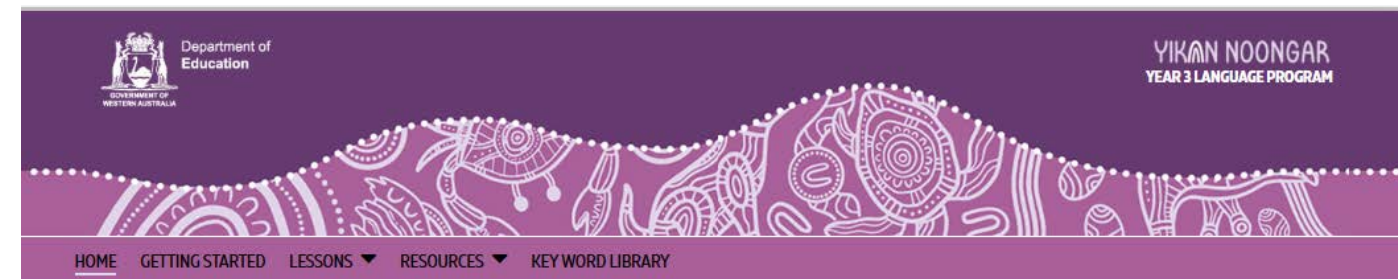
SWALSC recently worked with the WA Department of Education and the Noongar Boodja Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation to develop the Yirkan Noongar Language program.

The program engages students from Year 3 in public schools on Noongar boodja to learn Noongar language and build respect for Noongar culture, histories, people, knowledge, and experiences.

The program is designed to be taught by a Noongar language teacher or a Noongar person and includes two lessons each week for nine weeks of the term, as well as one extended learning experience, resources including videos, key word cards and a Noongar picture dictionary. There are resources for three dialect regions, with the capacity for further adaptation.

The Noongar picture dictionary is available to purchase on the Noongar Boodja Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation website at noongarboodja.com.au/product/noongar-picture-dictionary.

Below: The Yirkan Noongar Year 3 Language Program website.



YIKAN NOONGAR YEAR 3 LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Kaya! Welcome to Yirkan Noongar

The Department of Education respectfully acknowledges that Noongar language belongs to Noongar Country and Noongar people are the custodians of their language and culture.



Noongar Regional Corporations

Ballardong

ballardong.org.au

facebook.com/BallardongNoongar

linkedin.com/company/ballardong-aboriginal-corporation

Office: 19 Peel Terrace,
Northam WA 6401

Phone: 0458 343 849

Email: kaya@ballardong.org.au

Meet the team:

Chief Executive Officer, Mat Wilson

Executive Manager of Governance, Corporate Services, Community and Culture, Rebecca Sariago

Lands Manager, Kylie Tame

Elections

Cultural Advice Committee election (four positions) will be declared at the AGM on Saturday, 4 November 2023.

Find out more at ballardong.org.au/elections

The Noongar Regional Corporations welcome their new staff members, as they focus on working for their communities. SWALSC as the Central Services Corporation looks forward to working with the regional corporations to provide support and services as needed.

The regional corporations now have office locations, and they have advertised their Director and Cultural Advice Committee elections.

For more updates about each region, keep an eye on their websites, Facebook or LinkedIn channels.

Karri Karrak

karrikarrak.org.au

facebook.com/KarriKarrak

linkedin.com/company/karri-karrak-aboriginal-corporation

Office: Unit 2, 72 Duchess Street,
Busselton WA 6280

Phone: To be advised

Email: admin@karrikarrak.org.au

Meet the team:

Chief Executive Officer, Abby Phillis

Lands and Community Officer, Luke Yates

Elections

Cultural Advice Committee (four positions) election: Nominations close 13 October 2023.

Elections will be declared at the AGM on Saturday, 25 November 2023.

Find out more at karrikarrak.org.au/elections

Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar

wagylkaip.org.au

facebook.com/WagylKaip

linkedin.com/company/wksn

Office: 495 Albany Highway
Victoria Park WA 6100

Phone: 08 8166 1940

Email: kaya@wagylkaip.org.au

Meet the team:

Chief Executive Officer, to be advised

Executive Assistant, Natasha Triscari

Lands Manager, Justin McAlister

Elections

Director (four positions) and Cultural Advice Committee (four positions) elections will be declared at the AGM on Saturday, 18 November 2023.

Find out more at wagylkaip.org.au/elections

Gnaala Karla Booja

gkb.org.au

facebook.com/GKBNoongar

linkedin.com/company/gnaala-karla-booja-aboriginal-corporation

Office: Unit 1, 31 Victoria Street,
Bunbury WA 6223

Phone: 08 8166 1950

Email: contact@gkb.org.au

Meet the team:

Chief Executive Officer, Bruce Jorgensen

Executive Assistant, Julie Knipping

Lands Manager, Karim Kahn

Administration Manager, Ali Hall

Elections

Cultural Advice Committee (four positions) elections will be declared at the AGM on Saturday, 11 November 2023.

Find out more at gkb.org.au/elections

Whadjuk

whadjuknoongar.org.au

facebook.com/Whadjuk

linkedin.com/company/whadjuk-aboriginal-corporation

Office: Suite 3, 770 Canning Highway,
Applecross WA 6153

Phone: 08 7095 3560

Email: kaya@whadjuknoongar.org.au

Meet the team:

Chief Executive Officer, Noel Morich

Executive Assistant, Cheryl Thomas

Membership and Administration Officer, Stacey Ryder

Elections

Director (four positions) and Cultural Advice Committee (four positions) elections will be declared at the AGM on Monday, 20 November 2023.

Find out more at whadjuknoongar.org.au/elections

Yued

yued.org.au

facebook.com/YuedRC

linkedin.com/company/yued-aboriginal-corporation

Office: City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street,
West Perth WA 6005

Phone: 08 9420 7251

Email: admin@yued.org.au

Meet the team:

Chief Executive Officer, Raymond de Silva

Governance Officer, Sukhpal Singh

Elections

Director (four positions) and Cultural Advice Committee (four positions) elections will be declared at the AGM on Saturday, 18 November 2023.

Find out more at yued.org.au/elections

Free and confidential legal advice

Legal Aid Western Australia has launched Legal Yarn, the first culturally safe telephone information service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, staffed by mob.

Legal Yarn gives First Nations people free and confidential access to help with unpaid fines, Family Law issues, child protection matters, and criminal law matters, without judgement. This new service is another step of many, towards Reconciliation.



**If you or anyone you know needs confidential legal help, call
Legal Yarn on 1800 319 803.**

**Legal Yarn is available Monday to Friday between 9am and 4pm
(except public holidays).**

**Employment opportunities within
the regional corporations are
listed on their websites**

ballardong.org.au
gkb.org.au
karrikarrak.org.au
wagylkaip.org.au
whadjuknoongar.org.au
yued.org.au