



August  
2021



# Boorna Wangkiny



## ▶ CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

**The South West regional pre-incorporation meetings are underway. These meetings are an important milestone towards creating six regional corporations and the central services corporation (CSC).**

The regional corporations will have a strong voice in managing the land and resources held by the Nongar Boodja Trust on behalf of, and for the benefit of, all Noongar people.

SWALSC has started the work of transitioning from a native title service provider to a central services corporation and introduced new staffing and systems to provide regional corporation with financial, HR, records and other administrative services.

The CSC will also provide services such as research and advocacy in support of the broader Noongar nation.

Thank you to everyone who attended the first two agreement group meetings to endorse the initial directors, regional corporations and SWALSC as the CSC.

These meetings have been positive and productive, and the initial directors have already begun work on setting up their regional corporations. We look forward to seeing you at the remaining meetings.

If you have any questions about the resolutions or the process of setting up regional corporations, please get in touch with SWALSC – we're here to answer your questions.

We're now mid-way through an eventful year in which the Settlement was officially signed, the first transfer of land has taken place, and the first payments have been made into the Noongar Boodja Trust.

There's a lot of exciting work ahead of us, so I encourage you to come to the preincorporation meetings and be part of this important process.

Sincerely

Brendan Moore  
SWALSC CHAIR

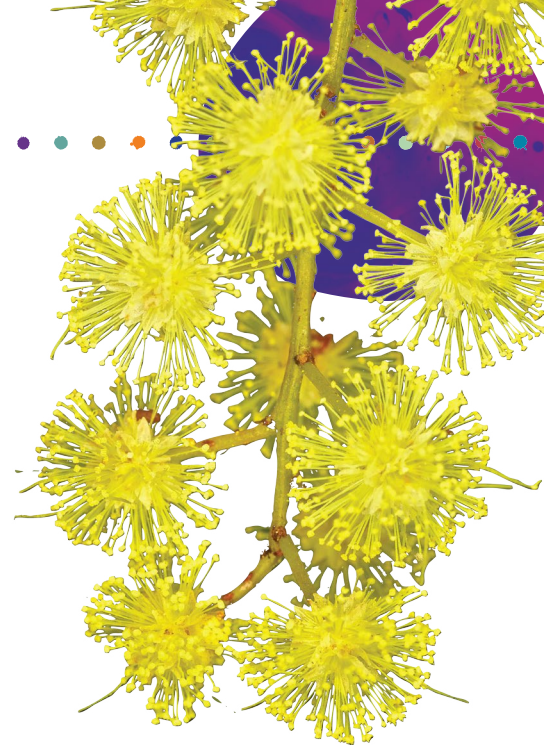
In this issue:

.....  
Regional pre-incorporation meetings

Noongar Land Estate Visits

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill





## REGIONAL PRE-INCORPORATION MEETINGS

### UPDATE

Yued and Ballardong have now held their pre-incorporation meetings to officially begin the process of establishing its regional corporation.

All the resolutions were passed at both meetings.

To make participating as easy as possible we held meetings at two locations, linked up via live video stream. Yued's meeting was held in Moora and Perth, and Ballardong in Northam and Perth.

The initial directors have already begun their work to continue the timeline to endorsement by the state, the trustee and ORIC. Congratulations to Greg Narrier, Diane Yappo, Mark Borinelli and Trevor Walley who were elected in Yued, and Barbara Bynder, David Collard, Murray Yarran and Kevin Fitzgerald in Ballardong.

Thank you to everyone who made the effort to come to these meetings and for contributing to a positive and productive experience.

We encourage anyone who's eligible for any other agreement group to attend your upcoming meetings over the next few months, and we hope to see you there.

If you have questions, or need meeting documents, go to [www.noongar.org.au/preincorporation](http://www.noongar.org.au/preincorporation) or contact SWALSC.





# FIRST INITIAL DIRECTORS MEETING

## PRE-INCORPORATION TIMELINE

The four initial directors for the Yued regional corporation met on Wednesday 18 August to begin the next stages towards full incorporation.

The initial directors for the other five agreement groups will meet soon after they receive endorsement at their meetings.

Over the next few months they will work on:

- Endorsement as an eligible charity by the Commissioner of Taxation (via the ACNC)
- Endorsement by the state government
- ORIC Certificate of Registration
- Advertising for new members and processing applications
- Opening nominations for candidates for member directors, expert directors and members of the cultural committee
- Holding elections and their first AGMs

The six regional corporations are expected to be up and running by mid-2022. If endorsed, SWALSC will also implement its transition to the CSC in this timeframe as we support the regional corporations.



Trevor Walley, Greg Narrier, Diane Yappo and Mark Borinelli at their first initial directors meeting



## Djilba season (August-September)

Djilba has cold and clear days with some warmer, rainy days. This is the start of the massive flowering explosion that happens in the South West, beginning with the yellow flowering plants such as the acacias.

As the days start to warm up, we start to see and hear the first of the newborn animals with their parents out guiding them with foraging.



Next time you visit the SWALSC office, you'll see our foyer is looking good! The Noongar recognition statement is an important acknowledgement of Noongar survival, and will now be the first thing you'll see when you arrive.

## LAND VISITS

The South West Native Title Settlement includes the handing back of lands including joint management of traditional lands, the establishment of 6 regional corporations and a central services corporation, housing stock and a range of other programs.

The government has offered its first round of land parcels for consideration to be accepted into the Trust for cultural, social and economic purposes. Our regional officers have been organising visits to these parcels with local Noongar people and elders over the past few months. These visits have inspired discussion with elders about what they might like to see done in these lands.

In July, Ballardong regional officer Michelle Winmar visited the town of York and showed 21 excited community elders and locals the land that has been offered.

“Community had a lot of ideas about what could be done on this land including aged care homes, residential (building houses), an art studio and a cultural centre was also mentioned,” she said.



“Of course there is a long way to go but the discussion has been started and we look forward with anticipation as to what will develop from this initiative.”

Land will be transferred occur over the next 5 years. For more info contact your regional officer or see [www.noongar.org.au/noongar-land-estate](http://www.noongar.org.au/noongar-land-estate).



## ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE BILL

The state government recently provided a briefing from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs regarding the most recent changes to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill 2021, which is intended to replace the Aboriginal Heritage Act from 1972.

The Bill is intended to encourage consultation, negotiation and agreement-making between stakeholders, but SWALSC is disappointed that this same spirit of consultation was not evident in the development of these

new amendments. Western Australia’s Native Title Alliance is asking the state government to pause its progression of the Bill through parliament until traditional owners are better consulted.

Juukan Gorge should have been a wake up call for governments to prevent such a tragedy from happening again. The final say on heritage must be given to traditional owners, with real penalties for ignoring the law.