

## Steering Committee

The Steering Committee met on 3 December 2021.

### Evaluation of *OCHRE* - Local Decision Making

The Committee wishes to acknowledge what a difficult year 2021 was for the Evaluation Team from the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR) and the Aboriginal communities during the progression of the evaluation throughout the pandemic. The Committee expresses its gratitude and appreciates the participation of Aboriginal communities, and commend CAEPR for their adaptability in their approach to the evaluation to ensure that Aboriginal voices continue to be heard throughout the entire project.

### NSW Deputy Ombudsman (Aboriginal Affairs)

The Committee received news that after seven years the State's inaugural Aboriginal Deputy Ombudsman (Aboriginal Programs) Danny Lester, left the office on Monday 22 November 2021 to take a new role within the Department of Regional NSW as the Director – Aboriginal Outcomes. The Committee wishes to acknowledge and thank Danny for his past contributions to Steering Committee meetings over the years and wishes him all the very best in his future endeavours.

### Co-developing the Instrument to measure change in working relationship by CAEPR

The Committee was pleased to receive an update on the progress of the Instrument. Committee members provided feedback to CAEPR on questions in their two draft surveys. One survey targets Regional Alliances and the other public servants. The supplied feedback is intended to help with the construction of a culturally appropriate instrument to measure the strengths and challenges of working relationships with Regional Alliances and public servants.

### Terms of Reference

The Committee collaborated on updating the *OCHRE* Evaluation Steering Committee Terms of Reference to ensure the Committee can best support the evaluation as it progresses into 2022 through its expert advisory capacity to ultimately improve outcomes for Aboriginal peoples and communities in NSW.

Wishing everyone all the best,



Associate Professor Lynette Riley  
Chair, *OCHRE* Steering Committee.