



Don Harwin
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

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ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES ANSWER THE CALL FOR LANGUAGES GROWTH IN NSW

Aboriginal languages across the State will continue to be taught, learned and translated through a range of projects funded through the NSW Government's Aboriginal Languages Community Investment Program.

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Don Harwin, together with the Aboriginal Languages Trust, today announced that 19 Aboriginal languages projects will be funded under the latest round of the Program.

"The applications were exceptionally strong and as a result the Aboriginal Languages Trust approved an additional \$60,000, taking the total funds released for 2021 to \$860,602," Mr Harwin said.

"The successful projects represent a range of language activities and are located right across NSW. The recipients showcase some of the incredible work being done by Aboriginal communities across the state to speak, learn and teach languages."

Projects being funded include teaching resources to use in local schools and early childhood centres and community gatherings to create new songs and dances with language translations that will capture and immortalise significant community stories.

Aboriginal Languages Trust Board Chairperson Jason Behrendt said the demand for support of languages projects from Aboriginal communities showed people were ready and willing to preserve and grow Aboriginal languages across NSW.

"The high number and quality of applications received reflects the dedication and hard work by communities to keep their languages alive and thriving for now and future generations," Mr Behrendt said.

"The Trust Board hope and expect to see an increase in demand for local language activities because this signals that the use of Aboriginal languages in NSW is growing."

The Aboriginal Languages Trust was formed in 2020 as part of the Aboriginal Languages Act 2017 to provide a focused, coordinated and sustained effort in relation to Aboriginal language activities at local, regional and State levels.

A full list of recipients is available [here](#).

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