



Victor Dominello

Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government

James Griffin

Minister for Environment and Heritage

Ben Franklin

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Regional Youth

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 30 June 2022

HELP SHAPE THE NEW ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM

The NSW Government is calling for expressions of interest (EOI) from Aboriginal organisations, communities, and individuals to contribute to the pre-design research stage of the new Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Information System (ACHIS).

Last month, Heritage NSW and Aboriginal Affairs secured a \$500,000 investment through the NSW Government's Digital Restart Fund toward the new digital system which will bring important Aboriginal cultural heritage information up to modern standards, and enable Aboriginal people to effectively monitor and manage their cultural data.

Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government Victor Dominello said the system will be designed by Aboriginal people, for Aboriginal people.

"We want to ensure this system is designed with the needs of Aboriginal people in mind and we want to make it as easy to use as we can," Mr Dominello said.

"Working with Aboriginal organisations, communities, and individuals on the pre-design research stage will help identify any issues early, and lead to a more user-friendly end product."

Minister for Heritage James Griffin said the NSW Government is calling for input from communities about their needs and aspirations for the collection of information on their cultural heritage.

"This is a powerful opportunity for Aboriginal communities across NSW to contribute to the development of the new system," Minister Griffin said.

"We want to hear from the Aboriginal community about what is needed from the new system, to ensure their cultural heritage is accessible and easy to use."

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Ben Franklin said community consultation is an important step in ensuring cultural heritage is adequately supported.

"We want to work in collaboration with Aboriginal communities, listen to what feedback they have on this upgrade, and appropriately address any issues and points of concern they might have when it comes to their cultural intellectual property," Mr Franklin said.

“This initiative will transform the way the Aboriginal cultural heritage is supported and managed. By doing so, we aim to empower Aboriginal people and ensure the design of the new system is informed by and designed to address communities’ needs.”

The EOI program opens 9am Thursday, 30 June and closes 5pm Thursday, 21 July and can be submitted via www.aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au/aboriginal-cultural-heritage/

Online information sessions will be held at the following times and can accessed via the same link:

- Thursday 7 July from 11am to 12pm
- Wednesday 13 July from 6pm to 7pm
- Tuesday 19 July from 1pm to 2pm

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