



Sarah Mitchell
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Stuart Ayres
Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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ABORIGINAL CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE NAMED IN TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE

A new Aboriginal Centre of Excellence to ensure young Aboriginal people are at the forefront of economic development in Western Sydney will be named in traditional Aboriginal language, the NSW Government announced today.

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Sarah Mitchell and Minister for Western Sydney Stuart Ayres today attended an official naming event at the site of the NSW Government's \$20 million centre.

"Today, we replace the centre's working title of 'Aboriginal Centre for Excellence' with 'Kimberwalli', meaning 'many stars'," Ms Mitchell said.

The new name, which honours a traditional local Aboriginal language of Western Sydney – Darug, recognises the many Aboriginal businesses and community members who have helped make the centre possible.

"This new name reflects the infinite possibilities the Kimberwalli Centre will provide as a place of higher learning, new employment and training opportunities, grounded in a strong connection to Aboriginal culture and community," she said.

Mr Ayres said the name was chosen in consultation with Darug language knowledge holders and endorsed by the centre's Project Advisory Committee, comprised of eight young Aboriginal people who guide its goals, programs and services.

"The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government allocated \$20 million to the centre, to ensure young Aboriginal people in Western Sydney are supported to achieve whatever they want to post-high school," he said.

"Today, we are a step closer to delivering this commitment. We welcome the Kimberwalli Centre to the economy of Western Sydney."

Ms Mitchell also announced 14 Aboriginal-owned businesses, each with more than 51 per cent Aboriginal ownership, have come together to create the Kimberwalli Centre.

"Thank you to Kevin O'Brien Architects, PSG Holdings, Orana, Merge, Yalagan, ABCO, Bunjil Energy, Indigi Bins, Geared Up Culcha, iDiC, We Create, TQCSI Yaran,

Winya and Black Logic,” she said.

“Each has been integral in the development of the centre and it is fantastic it has been built by Aboriginal people, for Aboriginal people.”

Numerous supporters and eight partner organisations will help deliver programs and services including Microsoft Australia, LinkedIn Australia, Muru Mittigar, National Aboriginal Islander Skills Development Association, TAFE NSW Western Sydney, Baabayn Aboriginal Cooperation, Aboriginal Employment Strategy and the Western Sydney Leadership Dialogue.

The Kimberwalli Centre is due to open its doors in early 2019.

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