



# Victor Dominello MP

Minister for Citizenship and Communities  
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs  
Assistant Minister for Education

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Friday 27 February 2015

### NEW GRANTS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY-LED ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE INITIATIVES

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs Victor Dominello today announced a new \$170,000 grants program to support the revitalisation of Aboriginal languages through community-led initiatives.

Mr Dominello said the *Our Languages, Our Way* grants program would enable Aboriginal community organisations and individuals to apply for funding of up to \$30,000.

"This program aims to encourage greater Aboriginal community ownership and participation in language preservation and will bolster the NSW Government's Aboriginal Language and Culture Nests program," Mr Dominello said.

"We know that Aboriginal students who have the opportunity to learn language are often more engaged in the classroom – helping them to build a stronger sense of individual pride and cultural identity.

"That's why, through *OCHRE: the NSW Government Plan for Aboriginal affairs*, the Baird Government has made a significant investment to support the revitalisation of Aboriginal language learning and teaching.

"We are working in partnership with Aboriginal communities and peak bodies to establish a pathway for lifelong learning of Aboriginal languages.

"The *Our Languages, Our Way* grants bolsters our investment through *OCHRE* by enabling Aboriginal community organisations which offer knowledge in the transmission of language and culture, to develop and deliver grassroots language projects."

Mr Dominello said the grants program would build on the achievements of the NSW Centre for Aboriginal Language Coordination & Development's language recording, research and teaching programs.

"Aboriginal organisations are invited to apply for one-off funding up to \$30,000 to deliver a language project within their local community," Mr Dominello said.

Advertisement for the *Our Languages, Our Way* grants program have this week been placed in the Koori Mail and the National Indigenous Times. Applications close on Friday 27 March 2015. For more information please visit [www.aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.aboriginalaffairs.nsw.gov.au).

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