

MEETING NOTES

HARBOUR TRUST ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ADVISORY GROUP

TITAN ROOM, COCKATOO ISLAND, SYDNEY

WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 11:00AM UNTIL 2:00PM

ATTENDEES

Roy Mundine AM
Susan Moylan-Coombs
Dennis Foley
Josephine Cashman
Mary Darwell
Kathryn Roberts
Eve Le Gall
Rebecca Hage

APOLOGIES

Djon Mundine
Peter White

INTRODUCTION

The Harbour Trust welcomed the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group (AG), Dennis Foley conducted a formal Welcome to Country.

ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The Harbour Trust provided an update on actions completed since last meeting. See updated actions from previous meeting below:

- HT received AG endorsement to site interpretation
- HT received AG endorsement to *Working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Organisations Protocol*
- HT requested that where possible, the AG could provide introductions to key stakeholders of importance – AG to continue to provide key introductions to Harbour Trust staff where possible
- Dennis Foley (DF) offered to give our First Nation employees an Introduction to Country and following this some broader staff engagement on cultural awareness
- HT has an upcoming review of the Enterprise Agreement, HT will ensure that appropriate provisions for Indigenous employees will be represented – HT advised the EA requires negotiation this year, however, whether additional arrangements need to be improved for Indigenous staff can be investigated and implemented following the Enterprise Agreement.



FURTHER COMMENTS

The AG recommended the Harbour Trust coordinate with other agencies to ensure the correct stories are interpreted at each site.

Mary Darwell (MD) advised there may be scope to collaborate further with Mosman Council and Taronga Zoo through the *Cultural Groups* meeting facilitated through Mosman Art Gallery.

Discussions around the approach to Indigenous tour guides for each of the Harbour Trust sites.

The AG advised it would be beneficial to facilitate a meeting between Garth Callender, HT Board member and Roy Mundine in order to discuss Indigenous contribution to the Australian armed forces.

The AG advised that HT Staff and Volunteers could benefit from an Indigenous history library of each HT site in order to share correct stories of country.

ACTIONS:

- HT to facilitate meeting between Garth Callender and Roy Mundine – Mary Darwell
- HT to add Indigenous military involvement to next AG meeting agenda – Rebecca Hage
- HT to start building a library resource – Internal Working Group

RAP QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE REVIEW TO DATE

The Harbour Trust outlined progress of Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to date. A new internal reference group has been implemented, ensuring the Harbour Trust has internal champions of the RAP. The internal reference group has produced formal Acknowledgement of Country cards for ease of use at meetings and events and Internal Advocacy Strategy.

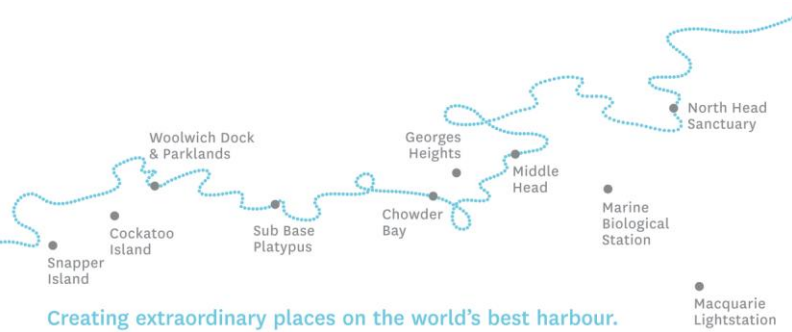
The AG advised a RAP checklist should be implemented as part of the HT induction process and ongoing.

The AG advised mentoring needs to be acknowledged within the RAP document as it is crucial for Indigenous and non-Indigenous professional development. HT acknowledged the importance of this.

The AG enquired whether Indigenous business has been included in HT procurement and supply chain, requesting a report on Indigenous procurement be presented at the next meeting.

ACTION:

- HT to ensure RAP checklist included for inductions and ongoing – Vicki Cranfield /Internal Working Group
- HT to supply Indigenous procurement report – Mary Darwell/Justin Bock
- HT to consider looking at professional development goals in the RAP – Mary Darwell



2020 OPPORTUNITIES

The Harbour Trust highlighted 2020 marks the 250 anniversary of Captain Cook's landing in Australia. The Harbour Trust advised this is an opportunity to highlight the importance of Harbour Trust sites and the Indigenous connection to land.

JC suggested the Harbour Trust contact the Musicological Society of Australia and enquire about their 2020 conference location.

DF noted the National Museum of Australia (NMA) has a significant exhibition planned looking at First Nation presence on Captain Cook's arrival. HT could look at engaging NMA to discuss Indigenous interpretation.

The AG noted it is important to discuss Indigenous culture as a living thing, rather than constantly memorializing Indigenous history.

ACTIONS:

- HT to reach out to the Musicological Society of Australia – Kathryn Roberts
- HT to engage with National Museum of Australia – Kathryn Roberts
- HT to organize separate meeting with Peter White (PW) in his new role capacity – Mary Darwell
- AG to provide HT with suggestions of Indigenous celebrations/interpretation – All Advisory Group

COCKATOO ISLAND: REFRESHING THE VISION PROCESS

The Harbour Trust provided an overview of the Cockatoo Island Refresh process.

The Cockatoo Island Refresh process will involve extensive consultation and will evaluate the Indigenous and non-Indigenous possibilities for the island. The AG were asked how best to engage Indigenous communities and groups in the consultation process.

The AG advised:

- Smaller groups or one on one sessions with Indigenous leaders.
- The HT need to engage a consultant who is connected with multiple Indigenous groups.
- The HT needs to be aware of how they consult different Indigenous groups in order to gather an accurate assessment of the site e.g., community/corporate groups/knowledge holders. This will also provide a variety of touch points
- No expectation the Harbour Trust can consult all groups

The HT recommended that further research is required on Cockatoo Island and Aboriginal History.

ACTIONS:

- JC to provide Harbour Trust was Aboriginal Philosophy paper – Josephine Cashman



- AG to provide advice of appropriate stakeholder groups to engage once consultant is procured – All Advisory Group
- AG agreed to commissioning further research on Cockatoo Island
- Harbour Trust to review content language regarding Cockatoo Island

OTHER BUSINESS

The Harbour Trust provided a brief overview of the ICOMOS Youth Forum which will be held on Cockatoo Island in 2020; its program will highlight the important emphasis on Indigenous connection to land. The Harbour Trust is looking to the AG to provide some input into the event.

ACTIONS:

- The AG to provide HT with appropriate contacts to engage for the forum – All Advisory Group