



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2009



**OUR VISION**  
A FULLY LITERATE  
ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY  
EMPOWERED TO  
DETERMINE AND MANAGE  
THEIR OWN AFFAIRS

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL  
(WAAETC)



## THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL [WAAETC]

WAAETC is a Ministerial Council which was established in 1995 in response to Recommendation 139 of the Report of the Western Australian State Government Task Force on Aboriginal Social Justice to provide independent, grassroots advice on Aboriginal education and training to both State and Federal Ministers for Education.

The terms of reference of the Council are to:

- provide policy advice on all issues concerning Aboriginal education and training in Western Australia;
- coordinate the development of a Strategic Plan for Aboriginal education and training in Western Australia;
- provide a forum for Aboriginal community members to contribute to determining Aboriginal education and training outcomes and policy direction;
- ensure that effective consultation occurs with Aboriginal people and communities on matters concerning Aboriginal education and training;
- ensure that appropriate monitoring and reporting occurs concerning the operational plans of the State's education and training providers; and
- consult with State and Commonwealth agencies concerning programs, the Strategic Plan and financial arrangements relating to Aboriginal education and training.

The role of the Council is to facilitate the delivery of more effective educational and training services to Aboriginal people in Western Australia through:

- advising the relevant Western Australian Government Ministers on policies relating to education and training and to coordinate the development and monitoring of an Aboriginal Education and Training Strategic Plan in Western Australia;
- ensuring that the Government has access to independent Aboriginal advice by developing effective consultative and advisory mechanisms, which will provide a better opportunity for Aboriginal people to work at the highest level in setting policy for education and training of Aboriginal people; and
- establishing funding agreements with the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations [DEEWR] that enable the Council to undertake projects relevant to its terms of reference.

All State education authorities (systems and sectors) are represented at the highest level possible on WAAETC and have agreed 'to address this State Strategic Plan's priorities in their own operational plans and be transparent in their reporting of their achievements'.



## STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL

The Western Australian Aboriginal Education and Training Council is comprised of the following members:

1. An Aboriginal Chairperson and ten Aboriginal community representatives selected across regional Western Australia including;

- East Kimberley
- Goldfields
- Metropolitan
- Mid-West
- Pilbara
- South-West
- West Kimberley
- Wheatbelt

2. Ex-officio members including the:

- o Director General, Department of Education and Training [DET];
- o Chief Executive Officer, Department of Education Services [DES];

- o Chief Executive Officer, Curriculum Council [CC];

- o Director, Catholic Education Office of Western Australia [CEOWA];

- o Executive Director, Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia [AISWA];

- o A Vice-Chancellor representative of the five (5) Universities;

- o Training representative, Department of Education and Training; and

- o A representative from Western Australian Aboriginal Council on Higher Education.

The Western Australia Aboriginal Education and Training Council has a full time Chairperson and two executive support staff to assist in the operations and work of the Council:

- o Executive Officer
- o Administrative Assistant



## A FULLY LITERATE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY EMPOWERED TO DETERMINE AND MANAGE THEIR OWN AFFAIRS.

The five priorities of the WAAETC Strategic Plan were arrived at after extensive consultation with the Aboriginal community.

Those Priorities are:

- Priority 1:** Aboriginal Cultural Identity, Maintenance and Security
- Priority 2:** Capacity Building of Aboriginal Communities
- Priority 3:** Aboriginal Community Engagement in Education and Training
- Priority 4:** Recognition, Promotion and Celebration of Excellence
- Priority 5:** Advocacy in Aboriginal Education, Training and Employment

The Priorities of the Strategic Plan were identified by the Aboriginal community in collaboration with education and training providers. From the Aboriginal community's perspective, these Priorities are the areas that need concentrated effort - because they underpin the success of Aboriginal children and young people in schools and Aboriginal adults involved in post-compulsory education.

The five priorities are aligned with and underpinned by:

- The Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians (2008);
- Australian Directions in Indigenous Education 2005 – 2008;
- The National Strategy for the Education of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples 1996-2002; and
- The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy (1989).

The WAAETC is located within and receives administration support from the Department of Education Services and therefore its operations are guided by Department of Education Services Strategic Plan 2009 -2011.



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL (WAAETC) FUNCTIONS

<p><b>PRIORITY 1</b></p> <p><i>Aboriginal cultural identity, maintenance and security</i></p>	<p><b>PRIORITY 2</b></p> <p><i>Capacity building of Aboriginal communities</i></p>	<p><b>PRIORITY 3</b></p> <p><i>Community engagement</i></p>	<p><b>PRIORITY 4</b></p> <p><i>Recognition, promotion and celebration of excellence</i></p>	<p><b>PRIORITY 5</b></p> <p><i>Advocacy in Aboriginal education, training and employment</i></p>
<p>Promote and be involved in NAIDOC activities and celebrations</p> <p>Conduct and facilitate Aboriginal cultural training</p> <p>Acknowledgement of Country is embedded in all WAAETC forums, gatherings and meetings</p> <p>Culturally appropriate resources are produced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mungullah 2 Early Childhood DVD</li> <li>- Test Literacy pamphlet for parents</li> </ul> <p>The report – The Voices of Our People is published and distributed</p>	<p>Facilitate parent forums, workshops and meetings to build capacity particularly in response to social issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Literacy and numeracy strategies for parents through the Test Literacy resource;</li> <li>- Preparing for school and community partnership agreements resource for parents</li> <li>- Facilitate workshops with parents that provide strategies for dealing with conflict, bullying, teasing, control of children and issues as parents request them</li> </ul>	<p>Conduct meetings of the WAAETC every quarter</p> <p>Consult with Aboriginal communities across the state on Aboriginal education and training</p> <p>Work in partnership with schools, systems and sectors to facilitate school and community partnership agreements</p> <p>Conduct two regional cross sectorial community forums on education and training</p> <p>Keeping our promise – take the report The Voices of Our People back to all communities consulted</p>	<p>Identify WAAETC recipients for Department of Education and Training (DET) Awards Night and Catholic Education's Awards Night</p> <p>Compile celebration stories on Aboriginal education and training for the WAAETC Newsletters. These newsletters are published and distributed across the state</p>	<p>Prepare two Issues papers for consideration by Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR)</p> <p>Compile and publish Annual Implementation Report on Aboriginal Education and Training</p> <p>Regularly update WAAETC website</p> <p>Work with Training organisations to engage more Aboriginal students in Training and to get more Aboriginal students on Aboriginal School Based Traineeships</p> <p>Meet with University sector each quarter</p> <p>Mungullah longitudinal study conducted by Murdoch University for the WAAETC completed and published</p>

## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL (WAAETC) TARGETS AND TIMELINES

Report: The Voices of Our People	Published	April 2009
School and Community Partnership Agreements (10)	Bayulu, Wangkatjungka, Halls Creek, Derby, Narragin, Quairading, West Northam, Nullagine, Roebourne, Jigalong	
WAAETC meetings (4)	Convened	April, July, October and December 2009
Consultation meeting in Remote areas with Aboriginal Communities (3)	Convened	March, June, August 2009
Consultation meetings with Aboriginal communities in non-remote areas (4)	Convened	May, June, July 2009
Issues Paper on Aboriginal Education and Training (2)	Submitted	May and November 2009
Report: Annual Implementation Report 2007	Published	June 2009
WAAETC Newsletters (2)	Published	June and November 2009
Report: Annual Implementation Report 2008	Published	August 2009
Regional Cross-sectorial Forums (2)	Convened	August and September 2009
Research: Effective Test Literacy Strategies for Aboriginal Students	Published	June 2009
Research: Western Australian Universities' Indigenous/Aboriginal Studies Centres Schools and Prospects for Collaboration	Published	June 2009
Resource: Pamphlet on Test Literacy Strategies for Aboriginal Students	Published	June 2009
Resource: School and Community Partnership Agreement Pamphlet	Published	July 2009
Research: Mungullah Longitudinal Research Study	Published	December 2009
Resource: Mungullah 2 Early Childhood DVD	Published	December 2009

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN  
ABORIGINAL EDUCATION  
AND TRAINING COUNCIL

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