

## **Murujuga Rock Art Stakeholder Reference Group**

### **Meeting on 4 August 2021 (MAC Head Office and Online)**

The Chair, Dr Ron Edwards, and Mr Peter Jeffries, Chief Executive Officer, Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (MAC), welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

#### **Update from Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (MAC)**

Mr Joseph Sollis, Heritage Officer MAC, provided members with an update on activities. MAC has been working with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions on progression of the World Heritage nomination. Upskilling of rangers, including training in rock art management techniques, is continuing. MAC is looking to expand the Cultural Management Plan to include the islands. The Tourism Precinct Master Plan is progressing, with the final concept aimed for completion by December 2021.

#### **Communications and Engagement**

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation provided an update to members on communication activities and the updated website. The Stakeholder Reference Group discussed improvements for future communication and engagement activities, and opportunities to support MAC.

#### **Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring Program**

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation provided an update on the Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring Program, noting that Calibre Professional Services One Pty Ltd was engaged in June 2021 to continue development of the monitoring program. The Stakeholder Reference Group was briefed on roles and key timeframes as well as the proposed scientific studies program. The next major step in the program is on site selection with MAC Elders and Rangers.

An informal follow-up meeting was held for Stakeholder Reference Group members to discuss aspects of the draft Monitoring Studies Data Collection and Analysis Plan with the scientific team on 20 September 2021. The plan is subject to independent peer review prior to finalisation in December 2021.

#### **Terms of Reference and membership**

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation surveyed members' views of the Stakeholder Reference Group Terms of Reference. A report of the survey was provided to the Minister for her consideration and a revised Terms of Reference was approved on 14 October 2021.

The Minister has extended the term of the Chair and current members until 31 December 2021 and will seek expressions of interest for the period January 2022 to January 2025. The next review of the Terms of Reference will commence mid-2024.

#### **Member Updates**

Members provided updates on:

- Dating Murujuga's Dreaming: Innovate new ways of rock art and climate change (University of Western Australia)
- From the Desert to the Sea: Managing Rock Art, Country and Culture (ARC Linkage Grant)
- Murujuga Rock Art Conservation Crowdfunded Project (John Black)
- Park management activities (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions )