

# ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CENTRE WESTERN AUSTRALIA



In recognising the state-wide importance of the Aboriginal Cultural Centre, we pay our deepest respect to all Traditional Owners and Custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to Country and community.

We pay our respects to all Aboriginal people; to Elders both past and present; and to the children who will carry culture into the future.



# Connecting the many campfires



Dr Richard Walley OAM

## A culturally safe urban precinct for Aboriginal people

The centre aims to showcase 65,000+ years of living culture through a central gathering place which will include a dynamic mixture of cultural functions and spaces. As below:



Aboriginal culture is the oldest living in the world. The knowledge and stories Aboriginal people hold and pass down through the generations contains the essence of Aboriginal people's connection to their Country.

The Aboriginal Cultural Centre will create a safe place for Aboriginal people to share their cultures and celebrate the diversity of First Nations people and Country across Western Australia. A place to heal, connect, and share song and story lines from across the state.

Here, we can open the doors to visitors and invite them to experience a connection with Aboriginal people and their cultures, flooding the energy of the Aboriginal Culture Centre outward—to our young people, our mobs all over WA, and into the hearts of those who arrive from every corner of the world.

## How might a Western Australian Aboriginal Cultural Centre benefit you and your community?

- Greater awareness, understanding and celebration of Aboriginal culture, heritage and Country.
- Advancement in truth-telling, justice, healing and reconciliation.
- Increased economic opportunities for Aboriginal people in creative arts, tourism, and other cultural related industries.
- Stronger connection and collaboration with and between Aboriginal people and communities.

## Aboriginal Cultural Centre

The state-wide centre will provide a platform to celebrate the world's oldest continuous living cultures. Aboriginal culture, Aboriginal history and Aboriginal stories from across the state.

The centre will become a powerful symbol of truth telling, justice, healing, and reconciliation, creating a culturally safe place for Aboriginal people in the state's capital city.

### Location

The Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation have graciously agreed to host the centre on their Boodja (Country). The centre will be located at Terrace Road carpark site, on the banks of the culturally significant Derbarl Yerrigan (Swan River).

### Following a cultural framework

Led by Aboriginal people working in partnership with the State Government, we are guided by Whadjuk cultural protocols of Wirin (Spirit), Boodja (Country), and Moort (People).

#### Wirin (Spirit)



#### Boodja (Country)



#### Moort (People)





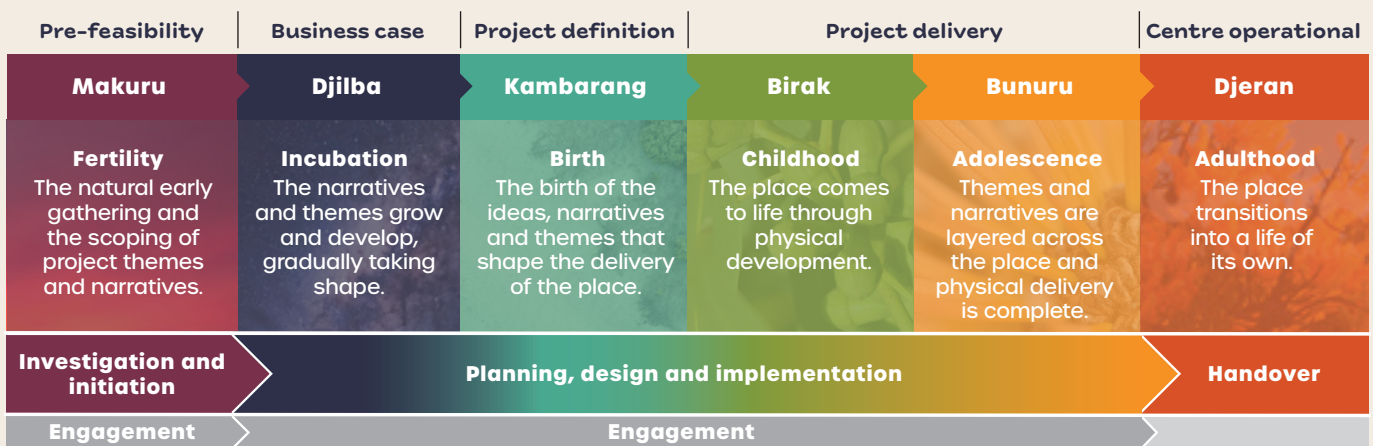
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## Where we are in the project life cycle

The project is now in the birth phase, or Kambarang, where we sit and yarn with you on your Country to hear what matters to you and your community.

How could the Aboriginal Cultural Centre become a place to educate the state, and the world, about our culture and to tell the truth about our shared history?

The birth phase is where we will solidify the ideas, narratives and themes of the centre and work together to connect the many cultural campfires across Western Australia.



Source: Six Seasons Framework, Intellectual Property of Dr Richard Walley OAM. The six seasons framework outlines each phase of the project's development which is connected to Noongar boodja (Country) seasons and life cycle.

## An open process of engagement and collaboration

As the project moves into its next stage, we will be expanding engagement across WA, meeting with and listening to Aboriginal people and communities, cultural knowledge holders, and language, art and cultural centres.

This will be an opportunity to update the wider Aboriginal community on the project and ensure everyone can contribute to the centre's planning and development.